

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**JANUARY POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**January 9- January 13, 2008**  
**N = 1515**

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

	<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
January, 2008	31	59	10=100	July, 2004	46	46	8=100
Late December, 2007	31	60	9=100	June, 2004	48	43	9=100
November, 2007	30	59	11=100	May, 2004	44	48	8=100
October, 2007	30	63	7=100	Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100
September, 2007	31	59	10=100	Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100
August, 2007	31	59	10=100	Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100
July, 2007	29	61	10=100	Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100
June, 2007	29	61	10=100	February, 2004	48	44	8=100
April, 2007	35	57	8=100	Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100
March, 2007	33	58	9=100	Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100
February, 2007	33	56	11=100	December, 2003	57	34	9=100
Mid-January, 2007	33	59	8=100	November, 2003	50	40	10=100
Early January, 2007	33	57	10=100	October, 2003	50	42	8=100
December, 2006	32	57	11=100	September, 2003	55	36	9=100
Mid-November, 2006	32	58	10=100	Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100
Early October, 2006	37	53	10=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
September, 2006	37	53	10=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100

Q.1 CONTINUED...	App- <u>rove</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
August, 2001	50	32	18=100
July, 2001	51	32	17=100
June, 2001	50	33	17=100
May, 2001	53	32	15=100
April, 2001	56	27	17=100
March, 2001	55	25	20=100
February, 2001	53	21	26=100

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

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
January, 2008	31	53	16=100
November, 2007	35	50	15=100
October, 2007	31	54	15=100
July, 2007	33	54	13=100
June, 2007	34	49	17=100
April, 2007	36	43	21=100
March, 2007 <sup>1</sup>	37	42	21=100
February, 2007	41	36	23=100
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27=100
Early October, 2006	35	53	12=100
June, 2006	32	50	18=100
March, 2006	34	46	20=100
January, 2006	34	48	18=100
Early November, 2005	36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
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

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1 In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

Q.3 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? [RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]

		Nov 2007	Sept 2007	Jan 2007	Sept 2006	Jan 2006	May 2005	Mid-2005	July 2004	Jan 2004	Mid-2003	Apr 2003	Feb 2003	Mar 2002	May 2001	Feb 2001
27	War/War in Iraq	32	37	42	25	23	24	32	25	16	14	34	10 <sup>▲</sup>	--	--	
20	Economy (general)	14	10	5	9	11	15	12	14	20	28	21	8	7	7	
10	Health care/costs	7	7	8	4	6	7	5	5	5	3	2	2	6	7	
6	Immigration	6	6	5	6	3	4	1	1	3	1	--	1	1	2	
6	Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	5	7	8	6	5	6	5	7	5	3	5	4	2	5	
5	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	4	3	5	4	7	7	7	8	13	10	6	4	5	6	
4	Education	2	3	4	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	1	4	8	11	
	Energy Costs/Rising gas/heating prices	7	2	2	7	5	6	--	2	--	--	1	1	22	4	
3	Inflation/Difference in Wages/Costs	2	1	--	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	
3	Terrorism	4	6	5	14	6	8	10	8	14	9	16	24	1	--	
	Defense issues/Military spending/ National & homeland security	2	3	1	4	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	5	1	1	
3	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	2	3	3	3	7	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced budget	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	2	--	1	1	1	
2	Morality/Ethics/Family values	2	3	3	2	4	3	5	4	3	4	5	8	6	12	
	Recession/Slowing down of the economy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	2	
2	Taxes (general)	1	1	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	1	--	1	3	3	
	U.S. foreign policy/International affairs	3	1	--	2	3	1	1	4	2	--	--	--	2	2	
1	Crime/Gangs/Justice system	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	4	8	
1	Trade/Jobs moving overseas	--	--	--	--	2	1	1	2	1	--	--	--	--	--	
1	Pay more attention to problems at home	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	
1	Using Am. military in foreign countries	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
	Oil dependence/Energy policy and alternatives	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
1	Drugs/Alcohol	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	4	6	
	Environment/pollution/Global warming	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	3	1	
1	Abortion	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	
1	Social Security	2	1	--	--	2	8	4	1	--	1	--	--	3	1	
1	Race relations/Racism/Racial Profiling	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	2	2	
1	Issues relating to the elderly	--	--	1	--	1	--	1	1	2	1	--	1	2	2	
1	Homelessness	--	--	2	--	2	1	1	1	1	1	--	1	1	2	
7	Other															
5	Don't know/No answer	6	5	7	7	7	5	5	6	4	9	4	8	8	7	
<b>36</b>	<b>(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/ INTERNATIONAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>34</b>	<b>(NET) ECONOMIC</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>26</b>	

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

**NO QUESTIONS 4 AND 5**

Q.6 As you may know, George W. Bush will give his annual State of the Union address in a few weeks... Do you consider this year's State of the Union address to be MORE important than past years', LESS important, or about as important as past years'?

		-- Clinton --							
		Jan	Jan	Jan	Mid-Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
19	More important	32	30	34	34	52	54	16	27
27	Less important	16	14	9	9	6	4	22	16
46	Same	43	47	47	49	35	36	53	51
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.7 In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Bush Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

		----- Clinton -----					-- Reagan --			
		Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Aug	Jan	Sept	Early	Newsweek
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	May	Feb
									<u>1987</u>	<u>1987</u>
28	Accomplishments will outweigh failures	31	49	60	51	56	50	52	46	52
59	Failures will outweigh accomplishments	53	36	27	37	38	34	35	41	38
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N =765]:**

Q.8F1 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or foreign policy?

		-----Clinton -----										
		Jan	Aug	Jan	Oct	Early	Jan	Early	Sept	Jan	Dec	Oct
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	
56	Domestic policy	39	50	57	64	53	52	56	86	85	76	
31	Foreign policy	40	32	25	20	27	34	30	7	7	13	
1	Neither (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	*	0	*	2	*	
8	Both (VOL.)	15	12	13	12	16	11	11	5	4	7	
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N =750]:**

Q.9F2 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or the war on terrorism?

		Early						
		Sept	Jan	Oct	Sept	Jan	Aug	Jan
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>
46	Domestic policy	39	42	50	56	40	29	33
38	War on terrorism	43	39	33	25	44	43	52
3	Neither (VOL.)	2	1	1	1	1	1	*
11	Both (VOL.)	12	14	13	12	13	22	13
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**QUESTIONS 10-11 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

**IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No Preference	(VOL.) Other Party	DK/ Ref	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2=100	12	18
Late December, 2007	25	32	36	4	*	3=100	12	18
November, 2007	28	33	32	4	1	2=100	9	16
October, 2007	25	37	33	3	*	2=100	11	17
September, 2007	27	32	32	6	*	3=100	8	16
August, 2007	26	32	32	5	1	4=100	10	16
July, 2007	27	32	34	4	*	3=100	11	17
June, 2007	25	34	32	6	*	3=100	10	17
April, 2007	25	28	40	5	*	2=100	13	17
March, 2007	25	36	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
February, 2007	25	34	34	4	*	3=100	10	18
Mid-January, 2007	24	35	34	3	*	4=100	12	18
Early-January, 2007	23	31	39	4	*	3=100	12	18
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1=100	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8=100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.5	33.1	30.0	4.0	.4	3.0=100	11.8	13.6
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5=100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7=100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7=100	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6=100	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1=100	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0=100	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9=100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4=100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3=100	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100			12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4=100			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100			14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8=100			11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100			13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5=100			14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8=100			12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100					
1987	26	35	39=100					

**QUESTIONS 12 THROUGH 27, A1 THROUGH A6 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

Thinking more generally...

Q.28 I'd like to ask you some questions about priorities for President Bush and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important or should it not be done? (First,) should **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM DIFFERENCES)** be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? (What about **(INSERT ITEM)**?)

<u>RANK ORDERED SUMMARY TABLE</u>		Top	Important	Not too	Should not	DK/Ref
		priority	but lower	important	be done	
s.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy	75	20	2	1	2=100
i.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks	74	22	2	*	2=100
f.F1	Reducing health care costs	69	24	3	3	1=100
l.F2	Improving the educational system	66	26	4	2	2=100
m.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	64	28	4	2	2=100
a.F1	Improving the job situation	61	31	4	2	2=100
n.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	60	33	4	1	2=100
t.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problem	59	32	6	1	2=100
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit	58	33	5	1	3=100
e.F1	Protecting the environment	56	34	8	1	1=100
c.F1	Reducing crime	54	36	7	1	2=100
q.F2	Providing health insurance to the uninsured	54	32	8	4	2=100
o.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	51	37	7	2	3=100
k.	Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration	51	32	11	3	3=100
d.F1	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	46	40	8	3	3=100
p.	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	43	31	13	8	5=100
r.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military	42	38	12	5	3=100
v.F2	Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington	39	32	16	4	9=100
j.F1	Dealing with global trade issues	37	45	11	2	5=100
w.F2	Dealing with global warming	35	38	15	7	5=100
h.	Making recent federal income tax cuts permanent	35	35	12	10	8=100

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

**FULL TRENDS**

**ASK ITEMS a THRU f OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=765]:**

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	DK/Ref
a.F1	Improving the job situation	61	31	4	2	2=100
	January, 2007	57	30	10	1	2=100
	January, 2006	65	28	4	1	2=100
	January, 2005	68	28	2	1	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	67	28	3	1	1=100
	January, 2003	62	32	4	1	1=100
	January, 2002	67	27	4	1	1=100
	January, 2001	60	30	6	2	2=100
	January, 2000	41	35	16	4	4=100
	July, 1999	54	30	10	3	3=100
	January, 1999	50	34	10	2	4=100
	January, 1998	54	32	10	3	1=100
	January, 1997	66	26	5	2	1=100
	December, 1994	64	27	5	2	2=100
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit	58	33	5	1	3=100
	January, 2007	53	34	7	2	4=100
	January, 2006	55	35	5	1	4=100
	January, 2005	56	34	5	2	3=100
	Mid-January, 2004	51	38	6	3	2=100
	January, 2003	40	44	11	2	3=100
	January, 2002	35	44	13	3	5=100
	January, 1997	60	30	5	2	3=100
	December, 1994	65	26	5	1	3=100
c.F1	Reducing crime	54	36	7	1	2=100
	January, 2007	62	31	5	1	1=100
	January, 2006	62	29	6	1	2=100
	January, 2005	53	39	5	2	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	53	34	9	2	2=100
	January, 2003	47	42	8	2	2=100
	January, 2002	53	39	6	*	2=100
	January, 2001	76	19	3	2	*=100
	January, 2000	69	24	4	1	2=100
	July, 1999	76	20	2	1	1=100
	January, 1999	70	24	3	1	2=100
	January, 1998	71	25	2	1	1=100
	January, 1997	70	25	3	2	*=100
	December, 1994	78	17	2	1	2=100
d.F1	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	46	40	8	3	3=100
	January, 2007	48	35	10	4	3=100
	January, 2006	51	32	8	5	4=100
	January, 2005	48	35	8	6	3=100
	Mid-January, 2004	44	37	12	6	1=100
	January, 2002	43	37	11	6	3=100
	January, 2001	66	26	4	3	1=100
	January, 2000	54	34	7	3	2=100
	July, 1999	57	30	8	4	1=100
	January, 1999	52	33	8	3	4=100
	January, 1998	54	33	8	3	2=100

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Top <u>priority</u>	Important but lower <u>priority</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Should not <u>be done</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
	January, 1997	42	38	10	8	2=100
	December, 1994	53	32	9	3	3=100
e.F1	Protecting the environment	56	34	8	1	1=100
	January, 2007	57	32	9	1	1=100
	January, 2006	57	35	6	1	1=100
	January, 2005	49	42	8	1	*=100
	Mid-January, 2004	49	40	10	1	*=100
	January, 2003	39	50	9	1	1=100
	January, 2002	44	42	12	1	1=100
	January, 2001	63	30	3	3	1=100
	January, 2000	54	37	6	2	1=100
	July, 1999	59	32	7	1	1=100
	January, 1999	52	39	7	1	1=100
	January, 1998	53	37	8	1	1=100
	January, 1997	54	35	8	2	1=100
f.F1	Reducing health care costs	69	24	3	3	1=100
	January, 2007	68	24	4	3	1=100
	<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
	Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans					=100
	January, 2006	60	28	6	3	3=100
	January, 2005	54	33	7	4	2=100
	Mid-January, 2004	50	35	8	4	3=100
	January, 2003	48	38	7	3	4=100
	January, 2002	50	37	7	4	2=100
	Early September, 2001	54	34	5	5	2=100
	January, 2001	66	22	4	5	3=100
	January, 2000	56	30	7	3	4=100
	July, 1999	57	29	7	4	3=100
	<b>NO ITEM g.</b>					
	<b>ASK ALL:</b>					
h.	Making the recent federal income tax cuts permanent	35	35	12	10	8=100
	January, 2007	36	32	12	12	8=100
	January, 2005	34	34	12	14	6=100
	January, 2003 <sup>2</sup>	30	39	15	9	7=100
	<b>ASK ITEMS i AND j OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=765]:</b>					
i.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks	74	22	2	*	2=100
	January, 2007	80	16	2	1	1=100
	January, 2006	80	18	1	*	1=100
	January, 2005	75	21	2	1	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	78	18	2	1	1=100
	January, 2003	81	16	2	1	0=100
	January, 2002	83	15	1	*	1=100

2

In January 2003 the item was listed: "making the cuts in federal income taxes passed in 2001 permanent".



**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Important				DK/Ref
		Top priority	but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	
j.F1	Dealing with global trade issues	37	45	11	2	5=100
	January, 2007	34	46	12	2	6=100
	January, 2006	30	46	11	5	8=100
	January, 2005	32	47	13	2	6=100
	Mid-January, 2004	32	47	14	3	4=100
	January, 2002	25	55	13	2	5=100
	January, 2001	37	46	8	3	6=100
	January, 2000	30	48	14	1	7=100

**ASK ALL:**

k.	Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration	51	32	11	3	3=100
	January, 2007	55	29	11	3	2=100

**ASK ITEMS 1 THRU 6 OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:**

l.F2	Improving the educational system	66	26	4	2	2=100
	January, 2007	69	25	4	1	1=100
	January, 2006	67	26	4	2	1=100
	January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	71	23	4	1	1=100
	January, 2003	62	31	4	1	2=100
	January, 2002	66	27	4	1	2=100
	Early September, 2001	76	19	3	1	1=100
	January, 2001	78	17	1	3	1=100
	January, 2000	77	18	3	1	1=100
	July, 1999	74	19	4	1	2=100
	January, 1999	74	22	2	1	1=100
	January, 1998	78	17	3	2	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	3	2	*=100
m.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	64	28	4	2	2=100
	January, 2007	64	28	5	2	1=100
	January, 2006	64	28	4	2	2=100
	January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	65	28	4	2	1=100
	January, 2003	59	34	4	1	2=100
	January, 2002	62	32	3	1	2=100
	Early September, 2001	74	22	2	1	1=100
	January, 2001	74	21	1	2	2=100
	January, 2000	69	27	2	1	1=100
	July, 1999	73	23	3	*	1=100
	January, 1999	71	24	3	1	1=100
	January, 1998	71	24	4	1	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	2	2	1=100

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Important				
		Top	but lower	Not too	Should not	
		<u>priority</u>	<u>priority</u>	<u>important</u>	<u>be done</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
n.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	60	33	4	1	2=100
	January, 2007	63	31	3	1	2=100
	January, 2006	62	30	4	2	2=100
	January, 2005	67	29	3	1	*=100
	Mid-January, 2004	62	32	4	1	1=100
	January, 2003	56	39	4	*	1=100
	January, 2002	55	38	5	1	1=100
	January, 2001	71	24	2	1	2=100
	January, 2000	64	30	3	1	2=100
	July, 1999	71	24	3	1	1=100
	January, 1999	62	33	2	1	2=100
	January, 1998	64	31	3	1	1=100
	January, 1997	64	31	3	1	1=100
o.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	51	37	7	2	3=100
	January, 2007	55	36	6	2	1=100
	January, 2006	55	36	6	1	2=100
	January, 2005	59	34	5	1	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	50	42	6	1	1=100
	January, 2003	48	45	5	1	1=100
	January, 2002	44	46	7	2	1=100
	January, 2001	63	28	6	1	2=100
	January, 2000	55	38	4	1	2=100
	July, 1999	60	33	5	1	1=100
	January, 1999	57	37	4	1	1=100
	January, 1998	57	34	6	2	1=100
	January, 1997	57	35	6	2	*=100
<b>ASK ALL:</b>						
p.	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	43	31	13	8	5=100
	January, 2007	47	30	12	8	3=100
	January, 2006	47	26	14	9	4=100
	January, 2005	41	32	14	10	3=100
	Mid-January, 2004	45	31	13	9	2=100
	January, 2003	39	34	16	7	4=100
	January, 2002	45	32	12	7	4=100
	January, 2001	51	27	10	7	5=100
	January, 2000	48	34	9	6	3=100
	July, 1999	55	28	8	5	4=100
	January, 1999	50	31	10	5	4=100
	January, 1998	48	31	13	6	2=100
	January, 1997	52	29	10	6	3=100
<b>ASK ITEM q THRU W OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:</b>						
q.F2	Providing health insurance to the uninsured	54	32	8	4	2=100
	January, 2007	56	31	7	4	2=100
	January, 2006	59	30	6	2	3=100
	January, 2005	60	30	7	2	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	54	34	8	3	1=100
	January, 2003	45	41	10	2	2=100

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	DK/Ref
	January, 2002	43	45	7	3	2=100
	January, 2001	61	31	4	2	2=100
	January, 2000	55	32	8	2	3=100
r.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military	42	38	12	5	3=100
	January, 2007	46	35	10	5	4=100
	January, 2006	42	36	13	6	3=100
	January, 2005	52	35	8	3	2=100
	Mid-January, 2004	48	31	15	5	1=100
	January, 2003	48	34	11	4	3=100
	January, 2002	52	37	7	2	2=100
	January, 2001	48	37	8	5	2=100
s.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy	75	20	2	1	2=100
	January, 2007	68	25	4	2	1=100
	January, 2006	66	26	5	1	2=100
	January, 2005	75	22	2	*	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	79	16	2	1	2=100
	January, 2003	73	23	2	1	1=100
	January, 2002	71	26	2	*	1=100
	Early September, 2001 <sup>3</sup>	80	18	1	*	1=100
	January, 2001	81	15	2	1	1=100
	January, 2000	70	25	3	1	1=100
t.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problem	59	32	6	1	2=100
	January, 2007	57	35	6	1	1=100
	January, 2006	58	33	6	1	2=100
	January, 2005	47	42	7	1	3=100
	Mid-January, 2004	46	41	10	1	2=100
	January, 2003	40	46	10	1	3=100
	January, 2002	42	46	7	2	3=100
	Early September, 2001 <sup>4</sup>	46	41	6	2	5=100
<b>NO ITEM u.</b>						
v.F2	Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington	39	32	16	4	9=100
	January, 2007	35	30	23	4	8=100
w.F2	Dealing with global warming	35	38	15	7	5=100
	January, 2007	38	34	16	8	4=100

3 In Early September 2001, January 2001 and January 2000 the item was worded: "Keeping the economy strong."

4 In Early September 2001 the item was worded: "Passing a comprehensive energy plan."

**ASK ALL:**

Turning to a different topic...

**ROTATE Q.29/30 BLOCK WITH Q.31/32 BLOCK**

Thinking about the nation's economy...

Q.29 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1=100
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1=100
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2=100
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2=100
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1=100
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2=100
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2=100
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2=100
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2=100
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1=100
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2=100
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1=100
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1=100
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1=100
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1=100
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1=100
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2=100
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1=100
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2=100
Late February, 2004	2	29	42	26	1=100
February 9-12, 2004 (Gallup)	2	31	46	21	0=100
January 12-15, 2004 (Gallup)	3	34	42	21	0=100
January 2-5, 2004 (Gallup)	3	40	41	16	*=100
December 11-14, 2003 (Gallup)	3	34	44	19	*=100
November 3-5, 2003 (Gallup)	2	28	49	21	*=100
October 24-26, 2003 (Gallup)	2	24	44	30	*=100
October 6-8, 2003 (Gallup)	2	20	50	27	1=100
September 8-10, 2003 (Gallup)	1	20	49	30	*=100
August 4-6, 2003 (Gallup)	1	24	52	23	*=100
February 17-19, 2003 (Gallup)	1	17	48	34	*=100
February 4-6, 2002 (Gallup)	2	26	55	16	1=100
March 5-7, 2001 (Gallup)	3	43	43	10	1=100
January 7-10, 2000 (Gallup)	19	52	23	5	1=100
January 15-17, 1999 (Gallup)	14	55	27	4	*=100
March 20-22, 1998 (Gallup)	20	46	27	7	*=100
Jan 31 - Feb 2, 1997 (Gallup)	4	38	43	15	*=100
March 15-17, 1996 (Gallup)	2	31	48	18	1=100
May 11-14, 1995 (Gallup)	2	27	50	20	1=100
January 15-17, 1994 (Gallup)	*	22	54	24	*=100
February 12-14, 1993 (Gallup)	*	14	46	39	1=100
January 3-6, 1992 (Gallup)	*	12	46	41	1=100

Q.30 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Don't Know/</u>	
			<u>Same</u>	<u>Refused</u>
January, 2008	20	26	48	6=100
September, 2007	19	23	53	5=100
June, 2007	16	24	55	5=100
February, 2007	17	20	58	5=100
December, 2006	22	18	56	4=100
September, 2006	16	25	55	4=100
January, 2006	20	22	55	3=100
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3=100
January, 2005	27	18	52	3=100
August, 2004	36	9	47	8=100
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8=100
September, 2003	37	17	43	3=100
May, 2003	43	19	35	3=100
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7=100
January, 2003	30	20	44	6=100
January, 2002	44	17	36	3=100
January, 2001 <i>Newsweek</i>	18	33	44	5=100
June, 2000	15	24	55	6=100
Early October, 1998 (Rvs)	16	22	57	5=100
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4=100
May, 1990	18	31	45	6=100
February, 1989	25	22	49	4=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9=100
May, 1988	24	20	46	10=100
January, 1988	22	26	45	7=100
January, 1984 <i>Newsweek</i> (RVs)	35	13	49	3=100

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.31 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only</u>		<u>Don't Know/</u>	
			<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Refused</u>	
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2=100	
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1=100	
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2=100	
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1=100	
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1=100	
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2=100	
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1=100	
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2=100	
Mid- May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1=100	
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1=100	
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1=100	
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1=100	
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4=100	
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1=100	
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1=100	

	5	40	37	16	2=100
<b>Q.31 COMBINED...</b>			Only		Don't Know/
	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Refused</u>
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2=100
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1=100
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2=100
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1=100
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1=100
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1=100
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1=100
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1=100
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1=100
January, 1993 <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>	4	33	46	16	1=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>	6	34	40	19	1=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>	5	30	47	17	1=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>	4	35	45	15	1=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>	4	32	45	18	1=100

Q.32 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

	Improve	Improve	Get a	Get a lot	Stay the	Don't Know/
	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Little Worse</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused</u>
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4=100
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4=100
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3=100
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3=100
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4=100
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4=100
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3=100
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6=100
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3=100
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7=100
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4=100
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6=100
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4=100
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4=100
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8=100
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4=100
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4=100
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4=100
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3=100
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3=100
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; W. Report</i>	9	51	14	3	15	8=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; W. Report</i>	6	50	20	5	14	5=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; W. Report</i>	8	49	22	4	13	4=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News &amp; W. Report</i>	9	46	19	5	16	5=100

And a different kind of question...

Q.33 Some people think of American society as divided into two groups, the “haves” and the “have-nots,” while others think it’s incorrect to think of America that way. Do you, yourself, think of America as divided into haves and have-nots, or don’t you think of America that way?

	<u>Yes, divided</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
January, 2008	43	54	3=100
July, 2007	48	48	4=100
September, 2006	41	55	4=100
Early October, 2005	48	50	2=100
Late March, 2005	38	59	3=100
Late February, 2004	38	59	3=100
June, 2001	44	53	3=100
April, 1998 <i>Gallup</i>	39	59	2=100
July, 1988 <i>Gallup</i>	26	71	3=100
Aug, 1984 <i>CBS/NY Times</i>	31	61	8=100

Q.34 If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in, the haves or the have-nots?

		Early					--- Gallup ---		
		July	Sept	Oct	Late Mar	Late Feb	June	April	July
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1988</u>
50	Haves	45	52	47	48	59	52	67	59
34	Have-nots	34	29	38	34	27	32	24	17
10	Neither ( <b>VOL.</b> )	13	10	11	8	7	10	6	15
<u>6</u>	Don’t know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**QUESTION 35 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**