PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS JUNE 2009 POLITICAL SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE June 10-14, 2009

N=1,502

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.1 AND Q.2

ASK ALL:

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

	Satis- D)is-	(VOL.)		Satis-	Dis-	(VOL.)
		sfied	DK/Ref			<u>satisfied</u>	DK/Ref
June, 2009		54	5	September, 2002	41	55	4
May, 2009		58	8	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
April, 2009		70	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
January, 2009		73	7	March, 2002	50	40	10
December, 2008		33	4	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Early October, 2008		36	3	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Mid-September, 2008	25	59	6	June, 2001	43	52	5
August, 2008	21 '	74	5	March, 2001	47	45	8
July, 2008	19 ′	74	7	February, 2001	46	43	11
June, 2008	19 [~]	76	5	January, 2001	55	41	4
Late May, 2008	18 '	76	6	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
March, 2008	22 ~	72	6	September, 2000	51	41	8
Early February, 2008	24 ~	70	6	June, 2000	47	45	8
Late December, 2007	27	56	7	April, 2000	48	43	9
October, 2007	28	56	6	August, 1999	56	39	5
February, 2007	30	51	9	January, 1999	53	41	6
Mid-January, 2007	32	51	7	November, 1998	46	44	10
Early January, 2007	30	53	7	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
December, 2006	28	55	7	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Mid-November, 2006	28	54	8	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
Early October, 2006	30	53	7	February, 1998	59	37	4
July, 2006		55	5	January, 1998	46	50	4
May, 2006		55	6	September, 1997	45	49	6
March, 2006		53	5	August, 1997	49	46	5
January, 2006		51	5	January, 1997	38	58	4
Late November, 2005		59	7	July, 1996	29	67	4
Early October, 2005		55	6	March, 1996	28	70	2
July, 2005		58	7	October, 1995	23	73	4
Late May, 2005		57	4	June, 1995	25	73	2
February, 2005		56	6	April, 1995	23	74	3
January, 2005		54	6	July, 1994	24	73	3
December, 2004		54	7	March, 1994	24	71	5
Mid-October, 2004		58	6	October, 1993	22	73	5
July, 2004		55	7	September, 1993	20	75	5
May, 2004		51	6	May, 1993	22	71	7
Late February, 2004		55	6	January, 1993	39	50	11
Early January, 2004		48	7	January, 1992	28	68	4
December, 2003		47	9	November, 1991	34	61	5
October, 2003		56	6	Late February, 1991 (Gallup)		31	3
August, 2003		53	0 7	August, 1990	47	48	5
April 8, 2003		41	9	May, 1990	41	4 8 54	5
January, 2003		50	6	January, 1990	45	50	5
November, 2002		48	11	September, 1988 (RVs)	43 50	30 45	5
1101011001, 2002	71 '	10	11	September, 1966 (KVS)	50	т.)	5

Q.1 CONTINUED ...

	Satis-	Dis-	(VOL.)
	fied	satisfied	DK/Ref
May, 1988	41	54	5
January, 1988	39	55	6

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.1 AND Q.2

ASK ALL:

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama 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 Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

		Dis-	(VOL.)
	<u>Approve</u>	approve	DK/Ref
June, 2009	61	30	9
Mid-April, 2009	63	26	11
Early April, 2009	61	26	13
March, 2009	59	26	15
February, 2009	64	17	19

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.3 AND Q.A3

ASK ALL:

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

		Dis-	(VOL.)			Dis-	(VOL.)
	Approve	approve	DK/Ref		Approve	<u>approve</u>	DK/Ref
June, 2009	29	56	15	January, 2000	39	41	20
March, 2009	28	51	21	December, 1999	38	42	20
February, 2009	34	51	15	October, 1999	34	50	16
Early October, 2006	33	56	11	Late September, 1999	34	46	20
June, 2006	30	53	17	August, 1999	40	44	16
March, 2006	32	50	18	July, 1999	36	45	19
January, 2006	33	52	15	June, 1999	37	46	17
Early November, 2005	5 33	50	17	May, 1999	38	44	18
Early October, 2005	32	52	16	March, 1999	38	47	15
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15	February, 1999	37	51	12
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15	January, 1999	38	50	12
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17	Early December, 1998	38	49	13
Early February, 2004	41	42	17	November, 1998	41	48	11
January, 2003	48	37	15	Early September, 1998	3 44	37	19
June, 2002	50	34	16	Early August, 1998	43	37	20
May, 2002	49	34	17	June, 1998	42	38	20
February, 2002	56	24	20	May, 1998	40	41	19
Early September, 200	43	39	18	April, 1998	41	40	19
June, 2001	40	40	20	March, 1998	43	39	18
May, 2001	45	36	19	January, 1998	43	41	16
April, 2001	45	30	25	November, 1997	41	43	16
January, 2001	43	36	21	August, 1997	42	44	14
July, 2000	36	46	18	June, 1997	33	50	17
May, 2000	40	42	18	May, 1997	40	44	16
March, 2000	38	43	19	April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 2000	40	43	17	February, 1997	44	42	14

Q.3 CONTINUED ...

Q.S CONTINUED	•••		
		Dis-	(VOL.)
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>approve</u>	DK/Ref
January, 1997	38	47	15
November, 1996	40	43	17
July, 1996	38	48	14
June, 1996	36	50	14
April, 1996	39	46	15
March, 1996	35	51	14
February, 1996	33	53	14
January, 1996	36	54	10
October, 1995	36	51	13
September, 1995	36	50	14
August, 1995	38	45	17
June, 1995	41	45	14
April, 1995	44	43	13
March, 1995	43	39	18
December, 1994	52	28	20

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.3 AND Q.A3

ASK ALL:

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? [IF DK ENTER Q.A3 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]

		Dis-	(VOL.)
	Approve	approve	DK/Ref
June, 2009	42	45	13
March, 2009	47	35	18
February, 2009	48	38	14
August, 2008	31	58	11
January, 2008	31	53	16
November, 2007	35	50	15
October, 2007	31	54	15
July, 2007	33	54	13
June, 2007	34	49	17
April, 2007	36	43	21
March, 2007 ¹	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
Early October, 2006	35	53	12
June, 2006	32	50	18
March, 2006	34	46	20
January, 2006	34	48	18
Early November, 2005	5 36	44	20
Early October, 2005	32	48	20
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19

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.A3 CONTINUED

		Dis-	(VOL.)
	Approve Approve	<u>approve</u>	DK/Ref
Early February, 2004	38	42	20
June, 2002	47	36	17
May, 2002	42	37	21
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early September, 200	1 49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]: Thinking about some issues...

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? Q.4

		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- approve	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F2	The economy			
	June, 2009	52	40	8
	Mid-April, 2009	60	33	7
	February, 2009	56	24	20
b.F2	The nation's foreign policy			
	June, 2009	57	31	12
	Mid-April, 2009	61	22	17
	February 2009	52	17	31

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.5F2 AND Q.6F2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]:

Q.5F2 What, if anything, concerns you the most about Barack Obama's economic policies? [RECORD VERBATIM; PROBE FOR CLARITY; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES; DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS]

24 Spending/Costs/Debt (NET)

- 14 Spending/Giving money away
- 9 Debt/Deficit/Burden on future generations
- 2 Inflation/Printing money
- 1 Taxes
- 1 How to pay for spending

13 Policies (NET)

- 5 Bailout (general)
- 2 Auto industry/Auto bailout
- 2 Healthcare/Medical
- 2 Stimulus
- 2 Bank industry/Bank bailout
- 2 Policies/Plans/Views (general)
- 8 Jobs/Unemployment

4 Scope of government (NET)

- 3 Government ownership/Control of private industry
- 1 Socialism/Socialist
- 3 Not enough aid to middle class/Helping rich not poor
- 3 Obama's personal traits
- 2 Political obstacles/lack of support
- 1 Moving too fast/Doing too much at once
- 20 None
- 19 Other
- 9 Don't know/Refused

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.5F2 AND Q.6F2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]:

Q.6F2 What, if anything, has made you most hopeful about Barack Obama's economic policies? [RECORD VERBATIM; PROBE FOR CLARITY; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES; DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS]

21 Obama's actions/the process (NET)

- 10 Trying his best/Doing something
- 5 Cares/Understands the middle class or poor/Makes the rich and powerful pay or be accountable
- 4 Brings fresh eyes/Change in approach/Hope
- 2 Smart/Common sense/Gets good advice
- 1 Openness of the process/Honesty about the situation
- 1 Decisions are made quickly

16 Policies/Plans (NET)

- 5 Jobs/Helping with jobs
- 3 Stimulus
- 2 Health care efforts
- 2 Immigration/Helping Immigrants
- 1 Tax cuts
- 1 Dealing with housing, foreclosures, mortgages
- 1 Bailout/Assistance for banks
- 1 Social Security/Helping seniors
- 1 Help for the auto industry
- 1 Green energy/focus on environment
- 5 Getting the economy going/Turnaround starting or hope for turnaround
- 4 Negative remarks
- 1 Everything
- 31 Nothing/None
- 11 Other
- 14 Don't know/Refused

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.7F1 AND Q.8F1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.7F1 Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic that Barack Obama's policies will improve economic conditions in the country?

		Early April
		2009
65	Optimistic	66
28	Pessimistic	26
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.7F1 AND Q.8F1 ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.8F1 Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic that Barack Obama's policies will reduce the budget deficit over the long term?

		Early April
		<u>2009</u>
55	Optimistic	54
36	Pessimistic	36
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	10

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]:

Q.9F2 Since taking office, have Barack Obama's economic policies made economic conditions better, worse, or not had an effect so far?

		Mid-April	March
		2009	2009
26	Better	26	14
16	Worse	17	15
49	No effect so far	47	64
4	Too soon/early to tell (VOL.)	6	4
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	3

ASK ALL:

Q.10 When it comes to national policy, who do you think Barack Obama is listening to more... [READ, RANDOMIZE]

		Mid-April	March	Jan
		2009	2009	2009
39	Liberal members of his party [OR]	40	44	34
35	Moderate members of his party	33	30	44
26	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	27	26	22

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.11F1 AND Q.12F1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

- Q.11F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the problems faced by U.S. automakers like General Motors and Chrysler?
 - 47 Approve
 - 44 Disapprove
 - 9 Don't know/Refused (**VOL**.)

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.11F1 AND Q.12F1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

- Q.12F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the problems faced by major U.S. banks and financial institutions?
 - 50 Approve
 - 40 Disapprove
 - 10 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]:

Now, thinking about foreign policy and national security...

- Q.13F2 Do you think Barack Obama is too tough, not tough enough or about right in his approach to foreign policy and national security issues?
 - 2 Too tough
 - 38 Not tough enough
 - 51 About right
 - 8 Don't know/Refused (**VOL**.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON

Thinking about foreign policy and national security... Do you think Barack Obama [**ROTATED WITH JOHN MCCAIN**] would be too tough, not tough enough, or about right in his approach to foreign policy and national security issues?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	Mid-Sept	Late May	Late Feb
	2008	2008	2008
Too tough	3	3	3
Not tough enough	45	43	43
About right	44	43	39
Don't know/Refused	8	11	15

RANDOMIZE Q.14F1 WITH Q.15F1/Q.16F1 BLOCK ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.14F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the situation with North Korea?

		G.W.Bush		Bill (Clinton
				1	Vewsweek
		Feb	Jan	Oct^2	June
		<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>
51	Approve	48	53	49	31
23	Disapprove	34	27	31	42
26	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	18	20	20	27

²

In October 1994 the question was worded, "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is dealing with North Korea?"

RANDOMIZE Q.14F1 WITH Q.15F1/Q.16F1 BLOCK

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.15F1 Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's plan to close the U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay within a year?

		Mid-April ³	Feb
		2009	2009
45	Approve	51	46
46	Disapprove	38	39
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	15

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.16F1 If the U.S. closes the military prison in Guantanamo Bay, would you approve or disapprove of some of the prisoners being transferred to federal maximum-security prisons in the U.S.?

- 52 Approve
- 43 Disapprove
- 5 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

NO QUESTIONS 17-20

ASK ALL:

Thinking briefly about a COMPLETELY different topic ...

Q.21 In your opinion, do government investments in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** usually pay off in the long run, or are they not worth it?

		Yes, pay off in the long run	No, aren't worth it	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Basic scientific research			
	June, 2009	62	26	11
	May, 2009	73	18	9
b.	Engineering and technology			
	June, 2009	63	23	14
	May 2009	74	17	9

ASK ALL:

Q.22 Now I'd like your views on some people. As I read some names, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each person. First, [INSERT FIRST NAME; RANDOMIZE] would you say your overall opinion of ... [INSERT NAME] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about [NEXT NAME]? [IF NECESSARY: would you say your overall opinion of [NAME] is very favorable, mostly favorable, or very unfavorable?]
[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

								(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		I	Favoral	ole	U	Infavoi	able	Never	Can't
		<u>Total</u>	Very	<i>Mostly</i>	Total	Very	<i>Mostly</i>	heard of	rate/Ref
a.	Barack Obama								
	June, 2009	72	37	35	25	11	14	*	3
	Mid-April, 2009	73	38	35	24	10	14	*	3
	January, 2009	79	40	39	15	4	11	0	6
	Mid-October, 2008	66	33	33	28	13	15	*	6

3

Prior to June 2009, question asked about Barack Obama's "decision" to close. ...

Q.22 CONTINUED ...

X C								(VOL.)	(VOL.)
]	Favoral	ole	U	Infavoi	rable	Never	Can't
		Total		<u>Mostly</u>	Total		Mostly	heard of	rate/Ref
	Late September, 2008	65	33	32	30	11	19	*	5
	Mid-September, 2008	62	28	34	34	15	19	*	4
	Late May, 2008	51	23	28	40	21	19	*	9
	April, 2008	52	21	31	42	21	21	*	6
	March, 2008	56	21	35	34	18	16	1	9
	Late February, 2008	57	24	33	34	16	18	1	8
	Early February, 2008	58	19	39	30	13	17	2	10
	January, 2008	56	20	36	33	13	20	3	8
	Late December, 2007	54	16	38	30	12	18	5	11
	August, 2007	48	14	34	26	10	16	13	13
b.	Michelle Obama								
	June, 2009	76	36	39	14	5	9	1	9
	Mid-April, 2009	76	36	40	13	4	9	1	10
	January, 2009	68	28	40	15	4	11	2	15
	Mid-September, 2008	56	23	33	25	11	14	2	17
	Late May, 2008	43	14	29	21	8	13	4	32
c.	Dick Cheney								
	June, 2009	34	9	25	55	29	26	4	7
	January, 2009	31	6	25	57	30	27	2	10
	December, 2006	35	10	25	55	28	27	2	8
	April, 2006	36	11	25	55	29	26	3	6
	Late October, 2005	43	12	31	46	22	24	2	9
	Late March, 2005	48	15	33	42	20	22	2	8
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	48	17	31	46	25	21	*	6
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	48	14	34	41	20	21	*	11
	Early September, 2004	43	13	30	42	23	19	2	13
	August, 2004	47	13	34	41	20	21	2	10
	April, 2003	60	21	39	27	12	15	3	10
	December, 2002	59	20	39	26	10	16	5	10
	July, 2001	58	19	39	26	6	20	6	10
	January, 2001	62	20	42	18	5	13	2	18
	December, 1994	42	10	32	19	5	14	21	18
	March, 1991 ⁴	68	33	35	6	2	4	10	16
	May, 1990	20	3	17	11	3	8	44	25
d.	Nancy Pelosi								
	June, 2009	35	8	28	41	25	16	15	8
	December, 2007	25	6	19	38	19	19	20	17
	December, 2006	32	9	23	27	13	14	26	15
e.	Sarah Palin								
	June, 2009	45	15	30	44	22	22	6	6
	Mid-October, 2008	42	18	24	48	27	21	2	8
	Early Oct., 2008 (callback)	49	19	30	43	20	23	1	7
	Late September, 2008	47	18	29	40	21	19	4	9
0.00	Mid-September, 2008	50	25	25	34	15	19	6	10
Q.22 C	CONTINUED								

⁴

In March 1991 and May 1990 the category was listed: "Richard Cheney."

		I	Favoral	ole	т	Information	rable	(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't
		<u>Total</u>		<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Mostly</u>	heard of	rate/Ref
f.	Newt Gingrich	<u>10tai</u>	<u>very</u>	<u>MOStiy</u>	<u>10tai</u>	<u>very</u>	<u>mostiy</u>	<u>ileare or</u>	<u>rate/ Rer</u>
	June, 2009	35	8	27	38	16	22	16	10
	October, 1998	41	8	33	49	23	26	1	9
	Early September, 1998	42	7	35	48	20	28	3	7
	Late August, 1998	43	5	38	52	19	33	2	3
	March, 1998	36	6	30	49	20	29	6	9
	November, 1997	30	6	24	59	24	35	4	7
	August, 1997	30	6	24	62	27	35	2	6
	April, 1997	28	5	23	64	28	36	3	5
	January, 1997	28	4	24	65	26	39	2	5
	August, 1995	30	9	21	54	25	29	4	12
	February, 1995	41	12	29	37	15	22	10	12
	December, 1994	25	7	18	28	13	15	30	17
	July, 1994	14	2	12	12	4	8	65	9
g.	Mitt Romney								
8.	June, 2009	40	9	31	28	8	20	19	13
	Early February, 2008	30	6	24	44	15	29	8	18
	January, 2008	31	7	24	43	13	30	8	18
	Late December, 2007	29	4	25	35	11	24	17	19
	August, 2007	28	5	23	24	7	17	29	19
h.	Michael Steele								
	June, 2009	23	3	20	14	4	10	51	12

RANDOMIZE Q.23-Q.24/Q.25-Q.26 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about the nation's economy... Q.23 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

			Only		(VOL.)
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/Ref
June, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
March, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
February, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2
Q.23 CONTINUED					

			Only		(VOL.)
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/Ref
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2
Late February, 2004 ⁵	2	29	42	26	1

Q.24 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?

				(VOL.)
	Better	Worse	<u>Same</u>	DK/Ref
June, 2009	48	16	34	2
March, 2009	41	19	37	3
February, 2009	40	18	38	4
December, 2008	43	17	36	4
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8
July, 2008	30	21	41	8
March, 2008	33	22	39	6
January, 2008	20	26	48	6
September, 2007	19	23	53	5
June, 2007	16	24	55	5
February, 2007	17	20	58	5
December, 2006	22	18	56	4
September, 2006	16	25	55	4
January, 2006	20	22	55	3
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2 3
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3
January, 2005	27	18	52	3
August, 2004	36	9	47	8
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8
September, 2003	37	17	43	3
May, 2003	43	19	35	3
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7
January, 2003	30	20	44	6
January, 2002	44	17	36	3
January, 2001 Newsweek	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4
Q.24 CONTINUED				

⁵ Earlier trends available from Gallup.

				(VOL.)
	Better	Worse	Same	DK/Ref
May, 1990	18	31	45	6
February, 1989	25	22	49	4
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9
May, 1988	24	20	46	10
January, 1988	22	26	45	7
January, 1984 Newsweek (RVs)	35	13	49	3

RANDOMIZE Q.23-Q.24/Q.25-Q.26 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.25 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?

			Only		(VOL.)
	Excellen		<u>Fair</u>	Poor	DK/Ref
June, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
February, 2009	5	33	41	20	1
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1
January, 1993 U.S. News	4	33	46	16	1
October, 1992 U.S. News	6	34	40	19	1
August, 1992 U.S. News	5	30	47	17	1
CONTINUED					

Q.25 CONTINUED ...

			Only		(VOL.)
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/Ref
May, 1992 U.S. News	4	35	45	15	1
January, 1992 U.S. News	4	32	45	18	1

Q.26 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?

					(VOL.)	
	Improve	Improve	Get a	Get a lot	Stay the	(VOL.)
	<u>a lot</u>	some	little worse	worse	same	DK/Ref
June, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
February, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3
October, 1992 U.S. News	9	51	14	3	15	8
August, 1992 U.S. News	6	50	20	5	14	5
May, 1992 U.S. News	8	49	22	4	13	4
January, 1992 U.S. News	9	46	19	5	16	5

Q.27 As you think about your OWN financial situation, which of the following economic issues worries you MOST right now? [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]

		March	Feb	Dec	Early Oct	March
		2009	2009	2008	2008	2008
42	The job situation	42	45	26	18	19
29	Rising prices	22	21	31	38	49
15	Problems in the financial markets	21	21	29	31	14
8	Declining real estate values	10	9	9	8	12
2	Other (VOL.)	1	1	1	2	2
2	None / not worried about any (VOL.)	2	1	2	1	2
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	2

NO QUESTIONS 28-30

ASK ALL:

- Q.31 From what you've read and heard, do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's roughly 800 billion dollar economic stimulus plan passed by Congress in February?
 - 55 Approve
 - 39 Disapprove
 - 6 Don't know/Refused (**VOL**.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

From what you've read and heard, do you think Barack Obama's roughly 800 billion dollar economic stimulus plan passed by Congress last month is a good idea or a bad idea?

Mar 2009			
56	Good idea		
35	Bad idea		
-		 -	

9 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

ASK ALL:

Q.32 As you may know, the federal government has taken several steps to address economic problems facing the nation. Do you approve or disapprove of the government spending billions of dollars [INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? How about the government spending billions of dollars [INSERT NEXT ITEM]?

a.	To substantially increase spending on roads, bridges,	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	and other public works projects June, 2009	73	23	3
b.	In an effort to keep General Motors and Chrysler in business June, 2009	36	58	6
с.	In an effort to keep financial institutions and markets secure June, 2009	49	45	6

Q.32a.-b. TREND FOR COMPARISON:

As you may know, the government has taken or is considering other steps to address economic problems facing the nation. Do you think it is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to spend billions of dollars **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE**]?⁶

	Right	Wrong	(VOL.)
	t <u>hing</u>	<u>thing</u>	DK/Ref
To substantially increase spending on roads, bridges,			
and other public works projects			
March, 2009	77	19	4=100
December, 2008	70	24	6=100
In loans to General Motors and Chrysler			
to keep them in business			
March, 2009	30	63	7=100
December, 2008^7	39	54	7=100

Q.32c. TREND FOR COMPARISON:

In addition to the economic stimulus program Congress recently passed, the government is investing roughly 700 billion dollars to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?

	Right Wrong		(VOL.)
	t <u>hing</u>	<u>thing</u>	DK/Ref
March, 2009	48	40	12
December, 2008 ⁸	47	43	10
November 14-17, 2008 (NII)	40	43	17
Mid-October, 2008	47	37	16
Late September, 2008	45	38	17
September 19-22, 2008 (NII)	57	30	13

⁶ In December 2008, question was worded "As you may know, the government is considering several other proposals to address economic problems facing the nation. Do you think it is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to spend billions of dollars...?"

⁷ In December 2008, item asked about "General Motors, Ford and Chrysler."

⁸ In December 2008 the question was worded: "As you may know, the government is investing billions of dollars to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?" November and October surveys did not include the phrase "of dollars" after "billions." In Late September 2008 and in the September 19-22 News Interest Index (NII) the question was worded, "As you may know, the government is potentially investing billions to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?" In

Late September 2008, an experiment testing the word "committing" instead of "investing" showed no difference in the results. Results for the two versions have been combined.

Q.33 In dealing with important issues facing the country, are **[RANDOMIZE**; Barack Obama and Republican leaders in Congress, Republican leaders in Congress and Barack Obama] working together or not working together?

ASK IF 'NOT WORKING TOGETHER' (Q.33=2) [N=837]:

Q.34 Who do you think is most to blame for them not working together? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

		Feb 20099
39	Working together	43
50	Not working together	45
12	Barack Obama to blame	7
26	Republican leaders in Congress to blame	27
9	Both to blame [VOL. DO NOT READ]	5
1	Neither to blame [VOL. DO NOT READ]	1
0	Democrats/Democratic leaders [VOL. DO NOT READ]	2
1	Other to blame [VOL. DO NOT READ]	1
2	Don't know who is to blame [VOL. DO NOT READ]	2
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12

NO QUESTIONS 35 AND 36

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

- Q.37 How much, if anything, have you heard about Barack Obama's choice of Sonia Sotomayor to be the next Supreme Court justice? [**READ**]
 - 39 A lot
 - 38 A little [OR]
 - 21 Nothing at all
 - 2 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]

ASK ALL:

Q.38 From what you've seen and heard so far, do you think the Senate should or should not confirm Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court?

		S	Samuel Alito		Harriet Miers	John R	oberts
		Jan	Early Dec	Nov	Early Oct	Mid-Sept	Early Sept
		2006	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005
50	Should	33	32	40	33	46	35
25	Should not	19	19	23	27	21	19
25	Don't know/Refused	48	49	37	40	33	46

ASK ALL:

- Q.39 What is your impression of Sonia Sotomayor, do you think she is [READ IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]?
 - 31 Liberal
 - 34 Moderate [OR]
 - 8 Conservative
 - 26 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]

9

In February 2009, question was worded: "In developing a plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs. ..."

Q.40 As I read some issues the Supreme Court may rule on over the coming years, please tell me how important each issue is to you personally. First, are court decisions on **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** very important, fairly important, not too important, or not at all important to you? Next, how about court decisions on **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**

		Very Important	Fairly <u>Important</u>	Not too <u>Important</u>	Not at all <u>Important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Abortion					
	June, 2009	55	20	11	11	3
	November, 2005	62	20	8	8	2
	July, 2005	63	21	8	7	1
b.	Affirmative action					
	June, 2009	40	32	14	7	8
	November, 2005	38	37	12	7	6
	July, 2005	43	35	12	7	3
c.	Issues related to homosexuality					
	June, 2009	33	18	20	25	4
	November, 2005	36	20	20	21	3
d.	The rights of people held in custody as terrorist suspects					
	June, 2009	57	25	9	6	3
	November, 2005	57	23	10	6	4
	July, 2005	62	21	10	6	1
e.	Election and voting rules					
	June, 2009	57	25	9	5	3

NO QUESTIONS 41 AND 42

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

A few questions about the economy ...

Q.43 Thinking about your personal finances, have you done any of the following lately? (First,) Have you [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] or not? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]

		Yes	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F1	Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new home			
	or make major home improvements			
	June, 2009	40	58	2
	February, 2009	37	62	1
	December, 2008	36	63	1
b. F1	Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new car			
	June, 2009	36	63	*
	February, 2009	37	62	1
	December, 2008	33	67	*

Q.43 C	CONTINUED			(VOL.)
-		Yes	<u>No</u>	DK/Ref
c. F1	Delayed or canceled plans to make a major purchase for your household, such as a computer or appliance			
	June, 2009	40	59	1
	February, 2009	44	55	1
	December, 2008	44	56	*
d. F1	Cut back on planned spending for vacation travel			
	June, 2009	59	41	*
	February, 2009	59	41	*
	December, 2008	57	42	1
e. F1	Adjusted your plans for retirement			
	June, 2009	30	69	1
	February, 2009	29	70	1
	December, 2008	27	72	1
f. F1	Changed the way your money is saved or invested			
	June, 2009	57	42	1
	February, 2009	53	46	1
	December, 2008	48	51	1
g. F1	Been eating out at restaurants less often			
J	June, 2009	56	44	*
	February, 2009	55	44	1
	December, 2008	55	44	1

ASK IF CHANGED SPENDING HABITS (1 IN Q.43bF1,Q43cF1,Q43dF1, or Q43gF1) [N=565]:

Q.44F1 You mentioned making some cutbacks in spending. Have you been cutting back because your financial situation has GOTTEN worse and made such cutbacks necessary, or because you worry that your financial situation MIGHT GET worse in the future?

		Feb	Dec^{10}
		<u>2009</u>	2008
36	Financial situation has gotten worse	30	30
50	Worry that it might get worse in the future	56	59
5	Both (VOL.)	5	4
6	Other (VOL.)	6	4
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3

NO QUESTIONS 45 AND 46

¹⁰ In December 2008, the beginning of the question was worded: "In general, have you been cutting back on spending because...".

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=743]:

Now, a few questions about foreign policy ...

Q.47 I'd like your opinion about some possible international concerns for the U.S. Do you think that **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** is a major threat, a minor threat or not a threat to the well being of the United States? What about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**

- 52		Major <u>Threat</u>	Minor <u>Threat</u>	Not a <u>Threat</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F2	China's emergence as a world power June, 2009	52	31	11	6
	January, 2009	32 46	36	11	6 5
	September, 2008	40 48	35	13	6
		-	33	10	9
	Late May, 2008	50 47	31	10	9 7
	February, 2006		-		
	Late October, 2005	52	31	10	7
	May, 2001	51	30	10	9
	July, 1999	53	33	10	4
b.F2	North Korea's nuclear program				
	June, 2009	72	19	5	5
	January, 2009	53	32	8	7
	September, 2008	55	33	7	5
	Late May, 2008	55	32	7	6
	February, 2006	60	27	6	7
	Late October, 2005	66	24	4	6
c.F2	Iran's nuclear program				
	June, 2009	69	20	5	5
	January, 2009	65	23	6	6
	September, 2008	60	29	6	5
	Late May, 2008	62	25	8	5
	February, 2006	65	23 24	5	6
	Late October, 2005	61	27	5	7
d.F2	Political instability in Pakistan				
0.12	June, 2009	50	33	7	9
	January, 2009	30 47	37	8	8
	September, 2008	43	40	8	9
	Late May, 2008	41	40	9	10
	Luc May, 2000	71	40	,	10
e.F2	Islamic extremist groups like al Qaeda	- 0			
	June, 2009	78	14	4	4
	January, 2009	77	15	4	4
	September, 2008	72	21	3	4
	Late May, 2008	72	18	4	6
f.F2	The conflict between Israelis				
	and Palestinians	40	25	0	C
	June, 2009	49	35	9	6
	January, 2009	45	40	9	6
g.F2	Drug-related violence in Mexico				
	June, 2009	59	30	7	4

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Now, a few questions about foreign policy ...

Q.48F1 When it comes to Barack Obama's dealings with our allies, do you think he is [**READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH "IS HE STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE" LAST**]?

- 8 Pushing America's interests too hard
- 20 Taking into account the interests of our allies too much [OR]
- 57 Is he striking the right balance
- 15 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.49F1 AND Q.50F1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

- Q.49F1 Compared with the Bush Administration, do you think the policies of the Obama Administration have made the United States [READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH "HAVEN'T THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE" LAST]?
 - 28 Safer from terrorism
 - 21 Less safe from terrorism [OR]
 - 44 Haven't they made a difference
 - 7 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.49F1 AND Q.50F1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=759]:

Q.50F1 Thinking about the situation in the Middle East these days, do you think Barack Obama is [READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH "STRIKING ABOUT THE RIGHT BALANCE" LAST]?

- 6 Favoring Israel too much
- 17 Favoring the Palestinians too much [OR]
- 62 Striking about the right balance
- 14 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]

NO QUESTIONS 51 AND 52

ASK ALL:

- Thinking about health care...
- Q.53 Do you think the health care system in this country works pretty well and requires only minor changes, do you think it needs fundamental changes, or do you think it needs to be completely rebuilt?

		March	June	Jan	April
		2009	1994	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
24	Only minor changes	21	28	21	15
30	Fundamental changes	36	32	33	26
41	Completely rebuilt	40	37	42	55
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3	4	4

Q.54 As I read from a list, please tell me whether each is a major problem for you and your family or not. First, is... **[INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** a major problem for you and your family or not a major problem? How about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

		Major Problem	Not a Major <u>Problem</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Paying for the cost of routine medical care			
	June, 2009	34	65	1
	March, 2006	38	61	1
	June, 1994	32	67	1
	April, 1993	40	60	*
b.	Paying for the cost of a major illness			
	June, 2009	48	50	2
	March, 2006	54	44	2 2
	June, 1994	51	47	2
	April, 1993	63	36	1
c.	Paying for the costs of prescription drugs			
	June, 2009	34	66	*
	March, 2006	44	55	1
d.	Paying for the cost of health insurance			
	June, 2009	43	56	1
e.	Your employer making you pay a larger share of your health insurance costs			
	June, 2009	35	61	5
f.	The availability of medical care in your community			
	June, 2009	21	78	1
	March, 2006	25	74	1
	April, 1993	20	79	1
g.	The quality of medical care in your community			
	June, 2009	24	73	2
	June, 1994	13	85	2
	April 1993	23	75	2

ASK ALL:

Q.55 Thinking about the country as a whole, do you think we spend too much, too little or the right amount on health care?

		March	June	April
		2006	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
38	Too much	26	38	36
40	Too little	57	40	49
14	Right amount	9	13	8
7	Don't know/Refused	8	9	7

RANDOMIZE Q.56 AND Q.57

ASK ALL:

Q.56 Do you favor or oppose changing the health care system in this country so that all Americans have health insurance that covers all medically necessary care?

		June	April
		<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
75	Favor	76	83
21	Oppose	19	13
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	4

RANDOMIZE Q.56 AND Q.57

ASK ALL:

Q.57 How important is it to you that we change the health care system in this country in order to limit the overall annual increase in the nation's health care costs. Is it **[READ]**?

		April
		<u>1993</u>
61	Very important	69
27	Fairly important	24
10	Not too important	5
2	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]	2

ASK ALL:

Q.58 What do you think is a more important goal for the nation [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]?

		April
		<u>1993</u>
	To find a way to limit the overall annual	
36	increase in health care costs [OR]	20
	To change the system so that all Americans are	
56	guaranteed access to all medically necessary care	74
8	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]	6

ASK ALL:

- Q.59 Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? [**READ IF NECESSARY:** A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid]
 - 81 Covered by health insurance
 - 18 Not covered by health insurance
 - * Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

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?

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Preference	Party 199	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
June, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
May, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
April, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3	11	15
Late September, 2008	8 25	35	34	3	1	2	13	15
Mid-September, 2008	3 28	35	32	3	*	2	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2	12	18
Yearly Totals								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2			12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6			14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8			11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9			13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5			14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8			12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34					
1987	26	35	39					