

March 8, 2001 — Study #455

◆◆◆◆ LOS ANGELES TIMES® POLL ALERT ◆◆◆◆

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

The Times Poll contacted 1,449 adults nationwide, by telephone March 3-5, 2001. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation. Random-digit dialing techniques were used so that listed and non-listed numbers could be contacted. The entire sample was weighted slightly to conform with census figures for sex, race, age, education and region. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For certain subgroups the error margin may be somewhat higher. Poll results can also be affected by other factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented.

NOTES

All answer frequencies are given in percentages. Totals may exceed 100% in questions where more than one response was accepted. Totals may be less than 100% where some answer categories are not shown. “ – ” indicates less than 0.5%. The wording of some questions has been abridged.

SELECTED RESULTS FROM THE TIMES POLL NATIONAL SURVEY March 3–5, 2001

(A full summary of results will be available at a later date through the Los Angeles Times Poll)

GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

ALL	All U.S. adults
RV	All registered voters
DEM	Registered Democrats
IND	Registered independents
REP	Registered Republicans
WHT	Whites
BLK	Blacks
MEN	Men
WOM	Women
<\$20K	Annual family income less than \$20,000
\$20–40K	Annual family income \$20,000 to \$39,999
\$40–60K	Annual family income \$40,000 to \$60,000
>\$60K	Annual family income over \$60,000
STK	Own stock
N/STK	Do not own stock
EAS	Residents of the East
MID	Residents of the Midwest
SOU	Residents of the South
WES	Residents of the West

Q1: Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Right direction	49	51	37	51	65	51	37	55	44
Wrong track	40	39	50	36	28	38	54	37	42
Don't know	11	10	13	13	7	11	9	8	14

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Right direction	34	47	49	62	55	43	52	42	53
Wrong track	56	42	41	26	34	46	38	43	40
Don't know	10	11	10	12	11	11	10	15	7

Q2: What's the most important problem facing this country today? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES) (TOP FIVE RESPONSES SHOWN)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Education	19	20	20	20	18	19	20	16	21
Economy/Jobs	18	18	20	18	16	17	24	20	16
Morals/Family values	17	18	12	24	21	18	10	17	17
Crime/Drugs	15	14	18	16	10	16	10	12	18
Taxes/Tax cuts	9	9	6	7	14	9	16	11	7

Q3: Which party, the Democrats or the Republicans, do you think can do a better job handling the major problems facing the country?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Democrats	32	33	61	28	8	28	59	26	38
Republicans	39	41	14	36	77	43	19	43	36
Both equally (Vol.)	9	8	8	9	6	9	4	9	8
Neither (Vol.)	12	11	8	17	5	12	9	14	9
Don't know	8	7	9	10	4	8	9	8	9

Q4: How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time, or hardly ever?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Always/Most of the time (Net)	29	31	30	25	34	29	22	27	31
Just about always	3	2	2	3	1	2	5	3	3
Most of the time	26	28	28	22	33	27	17	25	28
Sometimes/Hardly ever (Net)	69	67	67	74	64	69	78	72	66
Some of the time	51	51	50	56	50	51	55	50	53
Hardly ever	18	17	17	18	13	18	23	22	13
Don't know	2	2	3	1	2	2	—	1	3

Q5: The U.S. Senate will be evenly split among Republicans and Democrats, and there will be a nearly even split in the U.S. House of Representatives. With this in mind, do you think it is more likely that the political parties will work together to get things done, or do you think it is more likely to mean four years of gridlock?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Will work together	44	47	39	48	59	44	38	45	44
Gridlock	48	47	59	45	35	47	58	48	49
Don't know	8	6	2	7	6	9	4	7	7

Q6: Would you say you favor smaller government with fewer services, or larger government with many services?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Smaller government	59	63	49	68	77	64	40	66	53
Larger government	29	27	38	21	15	23	52	23	33
Don't know	12	10	13	11	8	13	8	11	14

Q7: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	62	65	45	63	86	68	31	69	56
Disapprove	18	18	30	16	7	14	42	15	21
Don't know	20	17	25	21	7	18	27	16	23

Q8: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of most of the people George W. Bush has appointed to his Cabinet?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	67	69	55	70	87	70	50	72	62
Disapprove	18	18	31	13	7	15	33	13	22
Don't know	15	13	14	17	6	15	17	15	16

Q9: George W. Bush has said that he wants to be a president who unites the country. Based on what you know about his Cabinet appointments, generally speaking, do you think Bush has chosen people who are likely to contribute to uniting the country, or has Bush chosen people who are likely to contribute to dividing the country?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Unite country	59	62	48	64	80	63	35	63	56
Divide country	24	24	36	22	11	19	52	24	24
Don't know	17	14	16	14	9	18	13	13	20

Q10: Would you say that on political matters, George W. Bush is more conservative than you are, or more liberal than you are, or would you say that you and Bush think the same way about political matters?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
More conservative	45	45	56	48	33	41	71	46	43
More liberal	16	16	15	14	19	17	10	16	17
Same	28	29	17	26	42	32	11	27	29
Don't know	11	10	12	12	6	10	8	11	11

Q11: Would you say that on social matters, George W. Bush is more conservative than you are, or more liberal than you are, or would you say that you and Bush think the same way about political matters?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
More conservative	42	42	49	44	32	38	58	44	40
More liberal	16	16	19	14	16	15	18	16	15
Same	31	33	19	32	47	37	11	30	33
Don't know	11	9	13	10	5	10	13	10	12

Q12: As president, what do you think George W. Bush's top priority should be? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES) (TOP FIVE RESPONSES SHOWN)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Education	27	28	28	30	27	26	33	21	33
Cutting taxes	15	15	9	18	19	16	10	19	11
Economy	14	15	16	15	15	14	11	16	12
Health care	8	8	11	5	7	9	6	4	12
Strengthen military	8	9	6	9	15	10	1	11	6

Q13: How much do you think George W. Bush will rely on Vice President Dick Cheney to help him make presidential decisions? Do you think he will rely on Vice President Cheney too much, or too little, or will Bush rely on Cheney as much as he would any of his other advisors?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Too much	17	18	25	13	17	16	23	16	19
Too little	13	13	18	17	6	11	26	14	13
As any advisor	59	60	48	62	69	63	38	60	57
Don't know	11	9	9	8	8	10	13	10	11

Q14: Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing well or badly?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Well	64	66	63	67	68	64	64	65	62
Badly	34	32	36	30	29	34	36	34	34
Don't know	2	2	1	3	3	2	-	1	4

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Well	57	62	62	73	65	63	61	62	69
Badly	38	35	36	27	33	34	37	36	34
Don't know	5	3	2	-	2	3	2	1	4

Q15: Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as secure or shaky?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Secure	68	71	63	69	82	70	56	69	68
Shaky	30	27	35	27	17	28	44	30	29
Don't know	2	2	2	4	1	2	-	1	3

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Secure	42	57	75	87	79	57	71	69	65
Shaky	56	42	23	13	20	41	27	29	33
Don't know	2	1	2	-	1	2	2	1	2

Q16: Do you think President Bush's policies will make the country's economy stronger over the next four years, or will they make the economy weaker, or will the economy remain about where it is today?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Stronger	33	35	20	34	54	35	18	37	29
Weaker	22	23	42	15	8	19	41	18	26
Remain where it is	33	31	29	37	28	33	33	32	33
Don't know	12	11	9	14	10	13	8	13	12

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Stronger	25	28	42	32	38	27	29	29	32
Weaker	24	25	19	21	20	24	20	25	23
Remain where it is	32	33	29	36	31	34	34	37	32
Don't know	19	14	10	11	11	15	17	9	13

Q17: What is your impression of Bill Clinton?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Favorable	45	44	62	47	21	38	80	45	44
Unfavorable	52	54	35	51	79	59	18	52	52
Haven't heard enough	2	1	1	1	-	2	2	2	2
Don't know	1	1	2	1	-	1	-	1	2

Q18: What is your impression of Hillary Clinton?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Favorable	44	43	61	38	28	38	70	39	49
Unfavorable	48	50	31	53	70	55	17	53	44
Haven't heard enough	6	5	4	8	1	5	11	6	5
Don't know	2	2	4	1	1	2	2	2	2

Q19: What is your impression of George W. Bush?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Favorable	68	70	51	68	93	72	39	75	61
Unfavorable	22	22	35	21	6	19	47	18	27
Haven't heard enough	6	4	6	8	-	5	7	4	7
Don't know	4	4	8	3	1	4	7	3	5

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO HAVE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF BUSH)

Q20: Why do you have a favorable impression of George W. Bush? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES) (TOP FIVE RESPONSES SHOWN)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	MEN	WOM
Honest/Has integrity	22	23	17	24	27	21	23
Moral values/My values	14	16	12	15	19	15	14
Good job so far	12	14	16	12	11	13	12
Thinks like I do	8	9	4	7	12	9	8
Strong leader	7	6	8	4	6	7	8

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO HAVE AN UNFAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF BUSH)

Q21: Why do you have an unfavorable impression of George W. Bush? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES) (TOP FOUR RESPONSES SHOWN)

	ALL	RV	DEM	MEN	WOM
Not smart enough	16	17	21	10	20
Stole the election	13	15	14	12	13
Tax cut too large	7	8	10	11	4
His policies	6	7	5	4	7

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q22: What is your impression of Dick Cheney?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Favorable	46	49	37	40	71	50	23	52	39
Unfavorable	8	8	15	5	4	7	19	9	8
Haven't heard enough	37	34	34	49	19	35	46	31	43
Don't know	9	9	14	6	6	8	12	8	10

Q23: Would you say that you have a good idea where George W. Bush wants to lead the country, or would you say his goals are not very clear?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Have a good idea	56	59	44	57	78	61	27	61	52
Not very clear	36	34	47	35	18	32	67	33	39
Don't know	8	7	9	8	4	7	6	6	9

Q24: Generally speaking, would you say that George W. Bush cares more about poor people, or cares more about middle-income people, or cares more about rich people—or would you say that Bush cares about all income groups equally?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Poor	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1
Middle income	8	8	8	8	8	8	5	8	7
Rich	39	39	62	36	15	34	68	36	43
All about equally	43	44	21	46	69	47	17	47	38
Don't know	9	8	8	9	7	10	7	7	11

Q25: George W. Bush lost the popular vote in the presidential election and won by a slim majority in the electoral college. Based on this, do you think President Bush has the mandate from the American people to push through many of his campaign promises on such issues as an across-the-board tax cut, school vouchers and privatizing a small portion of Social Security, or should he work to compromise with Democrats on many of these issues?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Push through promises	27	28	16	26	42	29	16	31	24
Compromise	64	64	78	63	51	62	76	60	67
Don't know	9	8	6	11	7	9	8	9	9

Q26: During the next four years, do you think George W. Bush will be able to provide affordable health care coverage for all Americans, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Will be able	26	25	18	18	37	27	22	28	25
Won't be able	54	55	67	59	41	52	66	54	54
Don't know	20	20	15	23	22	21	12	18	21

Q27: During the next four years, do you think George W. Bush will be able to strengthen Social Security and Medicare, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Will be able	47	49	34	44	72	49	35	52	43
Won't be able	39	38	52	43	18	36	59	37	40
Don't know	14	13	14	13	10	15	6	11	17

Q28: During the next four years, do you think George W. Bush will be able to make significant improvements in the nation's education system, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Will be able	58	59	49	58	73	60	52	59	56
Won't be able	29	30	42	28	19	27	43	28	31
Don't know	13	11	9	14	8	13	5	13	13

Q29: With George W. Bush as president, do you expect your own financial situation will be better than it is now, or worse than it is now or don't you expect much change in your financial situation?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Better	25	25	17	15	39	26	12	31	19
Worse	11	11	18	11	4	9	27	9	13
No change	61	60	61	71	52	62	48	55	66
Don't know	3	4	4	3	5	3	13	5	2

Q30: California is experiencing an energy crisis and the state governor has asked the federal government to help. George W. Bush said it is not the responsibility of the federal government to bail out states and they should find solutions to their own problems. What do you think? Do you think Bush was right or wrong in not helping California with its energy crisis?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Right	44	46	31	50	64	49	18	50	38
Wrong	46	44	62	39	29	41	77	41	51
Don't know	10	10	7	11	7	10	5	9	11

Q31: Did you watch or listen to George W. Bush's speech to Congress last Tuesday night? (IF NOT) Have you heard, seen or read anything about his speech since then?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Haven't heard anything	56	53	59	48	51	54	64	55	56
Heard (Net)	43	46	41	52	48	46	35	44	44
Watched/listened	30	33	30	36	34	32	23	28	33
Heard about it	13	13	11	16	13	13	12	16	11
Don't know	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO WATCHED, LISTENED OR HEARD ABOUT BUSH SPEECH)

Q32: During the course of his administration, do you think George W. Bush will be able to accomplish many of the goals he outlined in his speech to Congress last Tuesday, or only some of them, or only a few of them?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	MEN	WOM
Some (Net)	94	93	91	96	96	96	91
All (Vol.)	1	1	3	-	-	1	2
Many	14	14	5	11	28	16	13
Some	53	54	52	55	62	57	50
A few	25	24	31	29	6	23	26
None (Vol.)	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
Don't know	6	6	9	3	4	4	8

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q33: George W. Bush wants the military to build a national missile defense shield system. This system would intercept intercontinental nuclear missiles launched against the U.S. Do you approve or disapprove of building such a missile defense system?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	59	59	47	58	76	62	42	67	52
Disapprove	31	31	44	33	13	29	44	28	33
Don't know	10	10	9	9	11	9	14	5	15

Q34: George W. Bush has created an office in the White House that would enable religious organizations to receive government funds to provide services to the poor. Do you approve or disapprove of this?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	65	64	57	55	78	65	63	64	65
Disapprove	29	30	37	34	18	28	34	28	30
Don't know	6	6	6	11	4	7	3	8	5

Q35: During the presidential campaign George W. Bush proposed using the budget surplus for an across-the-board tax cut of \$1.6 trillion over the next 10 years for all taxpayers as part of his economic program, rather than a targeted tax cut for low- and middle-income families. Do you approve or disapprove of Bush's tax cut proposal?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	52	53	34	54	76	53	40	57	47
Disapprove	40	40	58	40	18	39	51	39	42
Don't know	8	7	8	6	6	8	9	4	11

\$20- \$40-
 <\$20K 40K 60K >\$60K STK N/STK EAS MID SOU WES

Approve	45	44	59	56	56	48	49	50	57	50
Disapprove	43	47	37	40	40	40	46	44	33	40
Don't know	12	9	4	4	4	12	5	6	10	10

Q36: Do you think using the budget surplus for a \$1.6 trillion a tax cut over the next 10 years is a good thing for the nation's economy, or is it a bad thing for the nation's economy, or will it have no effect on the nation's economy?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Good	43	45	28	42	66	46	33	49	38	
Bad	25	26	40	27	10	23	34	22	27	
No effect	19	17	20	18	13	18	24	21	17	
Don't know	13	12	12	13	11	13	9	8	18	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Good	33	35	51	51	50	36	43	46	43	40
Bad	30	26	20	27	26	23	24	24	27	23
No effect	17	23	20	15	15	23	18	23	16	21
Don't know	20	16	9	7	9	18	15	7	14	16

Q37: Do you think you or your family would get additional income from the proposed tax cut or not? (IF YES) What would you personally do with the additional income you would receive from a tax cut? Would you put all of it in savings, or would you use all of it to buy things for yourself or your family, or would you do a little of both?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Wouldn't get income	48	47	57	48	36	46	66	43	52	
Savings	8	9	6	10	11	9	2	10	7	
Buy things	7	8	8	5	7	7	2	6	7	
Both	26	27	19	27	35	27	25	33	20	
Don't know	11	9	10	10	11	11	5	8	14	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Wouldn't get income	60	54	48	37	40	57	43	53	49	46
Savings	8	4	8	14	10	6	9	6	8	12
Buy things	8	7	3	8	8	5	8	5	6	8
Both	11	26	29	32	32	19	25	29	26	24
Don't know	13	9	12	9	10	13	15	7	11	10

Q38: Generally speaking, who do you think would be helped more by the tax cut: rich people, middle income people or poor people?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Rich	53	52	70	54	33	51	73	50	56	
Middle-income	19	20	13	18	27	20	7	21	17	
Poor	11	10	10	11	9	10	16	10	11	
All (Vol.)	10	10	3	9	21	11	1	14	6	
Don't know	7	8	4	8	10	8	3	5	10	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Rich	53	60	50	50	50	56	51	59	48	55
Middle-income	20	14	24	21	23	14	18	17	20	23
Poor	13	12	10	9	9	13	11	10	13	9
All (Vol.)	2	9	10	13	11	8	11	10	11	6
Don't know	12	5	6	7	7	9	9	4	8	7

Q39: George W. Bush has proposed a tax cut of \$1.6 trillion and eliminating about two-thirds of the national debt over the next 10 years, which is about \$2 trillion.

Democrats say the tax cut should be about half as big with more money devoted to spending on domestic programs such as Medicare and education and reducing the debt.

Which comes closer to your view?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Bush's proposal	30	32	13	33	51	34	16	39	23	
Democrats' proposal	55	55	77	55	31	51	72	49	60	
Neither (Vol.)	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	4	4	
Don't know	11	10	8	10	15	11	7	8	13	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Bush's proposal	13	28	36	36	36	24	24	30	35	33
Democrats' proposal	63	60	53	49	52	59	61	56	49	54
Neither (Vol.)	12	1	2	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
Don't know	12	11	9	12	8	14	11	11	12	10

Q40: Which one of these statements comes closer to your view: "The government should pay down as much of the national debt with most of the budget surplus as it can over the next 10 years," or "The government should pay down a smaller amount of the national debt to leave money from the budget surplus for tax cuts and spending in areas like education and Medicare"? (ROTATED STATEMENTS)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Pay down debt	35	35	36	39	34	36	35	38	31	
Tax cuts/Spending	58	58	58	56	57	58	51	56	61	
Don't know	7	7	6	5	9	6	14	6	8	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Pay down debt	27	36	34	39	36	32	30	31	35	43
Tax cuts/Spending	54	55	64	58	60	57	62	65	55	51
Don't know	19	9	2	3	4	11	8	4	10	6

Q41: How concerned are you about the federal budget falling back into a deficit if Congress approves President Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax cut proposal?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
Concerned	58	58	76	59	38	54	77	52	63	
Not concerned	37	38	18	39	57	42	18	46	30	
Don't know	5	4	6	2	5	4	5	2	7	
	\$20- \$40-									
	<\$20K	40K	60K	>\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Concerned	63	59	59	55	55	61	63	54	55	60
Not concerned	30	36	40	42	42	32	34	43	40	33
Don't know	7	5	1	3	3	7	3	3	5	7

Q42: President Bush proposed to limit the growth of federal spending next year to four percent, slightly above the rate of inflation and much less than government spending has grown in the last few years.

Bush says that this limit of growth to four percent is enough money to fund priorities like education and medical research while preventing spending from growing too fast.

Democrats say Bush's proposal to limit growth to four percent is imposing cuts in needed programs in order to pay for his \$1.6 trillion tax cut.

Which argument comes closer to your view?

(ROTATED ARGUMENTS)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Bush	44	44	23	55	58	48	24	49	40
Democrats	38	38	58	29	26	34	58	34	42
Don't know	18	18	19	16	16	18	18	17	18

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM	
		\$20- <\$20K	\$40- 40K	\$60- >\$60K	STK	N/STK	EAS	MID	SOU	WES
Bush	25	43	49	50	50	37	45	49	43	39
Democrats	47	44	38	32	37	40	39	34	42	38
Don't know	28	13	13	18	13	23	16	17	15	23

Q43: During the campaign, George W. Bush said that he would consider opening up part of the Alaskan Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration. Do you approve or disapprove of Bush's proposal?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	47	47	38	40	68	50	29	54	40
Disapprove	45	45	54	48	28	43	56	42	48
Don't know	8	8	8	12	4	7	15	4	12

Q44: George W. Bush proposed an education package that includes a \$5 billion budget over five years for elementary education. He wants part of the money to help retrain teachers in reading instruction for students in kindergarten through third grade. He also wants students in the third to eighth grades to be tested annually in math and science, and to also hold the schools accountable for the progress their students achieve. Do you approve or disapprove of this?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	80	80	73	82	88	82	68	83	78
Disapprove	15	16	21	13	9	14	20	13	17
Don't know	5	4	6	5	3	4	12	4	5

Q45: I would like to read you two versions of school voucher plans that George W. Bush and some Democratic senators have proposed. First...

George W. Bush's plan favors school vouchers when schools fail to improve student performance for three years. Federal funds would be diverted into a \$1,500 voucher and given to low-income parents to buy after-school tutoring or to pay for tuition at a private school.

Democratic senators in Congress propose giving vouchers to parents who have children in failing schools that could be used for after-school tutoring, but cannot be used for private school tuition. The plan would also fund the vouchers with new money and would not take existing federal aid from failing schools.

Which of these two plans comes closer to your view?

(ROTATED PLANS)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Bush's plan	42	43	31	43	57	41	39	45	38
Democrats' plan	46	45	57	45	30	46	50	44	48
Don't know	12	12	12	12	13	13	11	11	14

Q46: Do you approve or disapprove of George W. Bush's proposal to allow individuals to divert part of their Social Security payroll taxes into private accounts which they could personally invest in the stock market for their retirement?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	58	58	39	67	69	59	44	62	55
Disapprove	32	34	50	26	24	32	40	31	33
Don't know	10	8	11	7	7	9	16	7	12

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO APPROVE OF PRIVATIZING SOCIAL SECURITY)

Q47: Would you still support this idea if it meant a reduction in the guaranteed benefit retirees receive through the Social Security system, or would you be opposed to it?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	MEN	WOM
Support	55	57	47	47	67	59	52
Oppose	38	37	48	43	26	34	41
Don't know	7	6	5	10	7	7	7

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

COMBINED RESULTS OF Q46 & Q47:

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve of Bush proposal...									
<i>Even if</i> benefits are reduced	32	33	18	32	47	34	18	36	28
<i>But not if</i> benefits are reduced	22	21	19	29	18	21	25	21	23
Disapprove of proposal	32	34	50	26	24	32	40	31	33
Don't know	14	12	13	13	11	13	17	12	16

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q48: Do you think campaign finance reform should be a top priority of the Bush administration, or an important issue but not the top priority, or a not so important issue, or not an issue at all?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Important (Net)	63	67	65	73	66	65	57	62	64
Top priority	15	16	20	17	12	14	12	18	12
Important	49	51	45	57	54	50	45	45	52
Not important (Net)	30	27	27	22	27	29	37	31	29
Not so important	18	16	18	10	20	19	19	17	19
Not an issue	11	11	9	12	7	10	18	13	10
Don't know	7	6	8	5	7	6	6	7	7

Q49: The United States Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision in 1973, called *Roe versus Wade*, which legalized abortion.

Generally speaking, are you in favor of the Supreme Court decision which permits a woman to get an abortion from a doctor at any time, or are you opposed to that, or are you indifferent on the subject—or haven't you heard enough about that yet to say? (IF IN FAVOR OR OPPOSED) Is that (in favor/opposed) strongly or (in favor/opposed) somewhat?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Favor (Net)	47	48	51	48	42	48	42	43	50
Favor strongly	35	36	42	32	30	35	31	31	38
Favor somewhat	12	12	9	16	12	13	11	12	12
Indifferent	9	8	7	12	8	10	10	12	8
Oppose (Net)	37	37	34	35	47	38	28	37	37
Oppose somewhat	7	6	8	3	8	7	5	10	5
Oppose strongly	30	31	25	32	40	31	23	27	33
Haven't heard enough	3	3	3	1	2	2	7	3	2
Don't know	4	4	5	4	1	2	13	5	3

Q50: Which comes closest to your view on abortion: Abortion should always be legal, or should be made illegal except in cases of rape, incest and to save the mother's life, or abortion should be made illegal without any exceptions?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Always legal	42	43	51	45	34	42	42	39	45
Illegal with exceptions	41	41	37	41	49	43	36	46	36
Illegal, no exceptions	12	12	8	12	12	11	20	9	15
Don't know	5	4	4	2	5	4	2	6	4

Q51: One of George W. Bush's first acts as president was to issue an executive order to block federal government grants to international family planning groups that pay for abortions or provide abortion counseling in third world countries. Do you approve or disapprove of this executive order?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	45	45	34	47	57	48	40	54	37
Disapprove	46	47	59	46	32	43	52	37	53
Don't know	9	8	7	7	11	9	8	9	10

Q52: President Bush said that he would not use a nominee's beliefs on abortion as the deciding factor for his selection of a United States Supreme Court justice. Do you believe Bush when he says he will not use an abortion test for his selection of a United States Supreme Court justice, or do you not believe that?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Believe him	44	48	29	50	69	47	30	49	40
Don't believe him	42	41	61	40	18	39	62	38	45
Don't know	14	11	10	10	13	14	8	13	15

Q53: There is a possibility that one or two justices of the United States Supreme Court may retire during George W. Bush's term in office. Do you think Bush's nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court will be conservative, moderate or liberal?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Conservative	63	66	66	64	68	63	68	63	63
Moderate	17	16	14	14	22	18	11	21	14
Liberal	10	10	11	14	5	9	15	10	9
Don't know	10	8	9	8	5	10	6	6	14

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO SAID CONSERVATIVE, MODERATE OR LIBERAL)

Q54: You said you thought George W. Bush's nominees to the United States Supreme Court will be (response to Q53). Does that please you, or does that upset you, or does that not make a difference one way or other?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Pleased	34	36	22	31	58	36	22	38	29
Upset	26	28	46	23	8	26	30	21	31
No difference	38	35	30	45	33	36	46	39	37
Don't know	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	3

Among those who answered Q53...

	CONSERVATIVE	MODERATE	LIBERAL
Pleased	37	33	12
Upset	32	8	23
No difference	30	56	62
Don't know	1	3	3

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q55: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton handled his job as president?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	MEN	WOM
Approve	64	63	84	64	36	59	82	65	63
Disapprove	35	36	15	34	63	39	17	35	35
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	-	2

Q56: How do you think Bill Clinton will go down in history—as an outstanding president, an above-average president, a below-average president, or will Clinton go down in history as a poor president?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>WHT</u>	<u>BLK</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Above average (Net)	39	39	51	39	28	34	57	40	38
Outstanding	11	11	18	12	4	7	23	9	12
Above average	29	28	33	27	24	27	34	31	27
Average (Vol.)	19	20	18	20	21	20	17	21	17
Below average (Net)	38	38	27	38	49	42	24	37	40
Below average	19	17	14	20	19	21	10	16	21
Poor	19	21	14	18	30	21	14	21	18
Don't know	4	3	4	3	2	4	2	2	5

Q57: Have you heard or read about the controversy surrounding several of the pardons that President Bill Clinton made before he left office? (IF HEARD OR READ) Have you heard or read a great deal about them, or some, or not too much?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>WHT</u>	<u>BLK</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Haven't heard	13	9	9	8	7	10	24	13	13
Great deal/Some (Net)	73	77	79	75	81	75	60	74	72
Great deal	40	44	39	46	52	42	27	41	39
Some	33	33	40	30	30	33	33	33	33
Not too much	13	13	11	15	11	14	12	12	14
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD OR READ ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY)

Q58: Do you think Clinton's controversial pardons were based solely on the merits of the cases, or do you think they were made in return for favors and contributions, or do you think it was a combination of both?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>WHT</u>	<u>BLK</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Merits	5	5	8	3	3	4	10	4	5
Favors/Contributions	40	41	24	40	60	44	20	41	39
Both	48	48	61	50	34	46	63	49	48
Don't know	7	6	7	7	3	6	7	6	8

(ASKED OF HALF-SAMPLE "A" OF ALL RESPONDENTS)

Q59: Do you think the pardons that President Clinton made before he left office were better or worse than the pardons made by previous presidents, or were they about the same?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Better	5	4	7	3	1	4	5
Worse	45	48	33	45	72	46	44
About the same	33	33	47	39	10	34	33
Don't know	17	15	13	13	17	16	18

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

(ASKED OF HALF-SAMPLE "B" OF ALL RESPONDENTS)

Q60: As you may remember, President Ford pardoned Richard Nixon after he resigned from office and President Bush pardoned former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger for his part in the Iran-contra affair during the Reagan administration. With these and other presidential pardons in mind, do you think the pardons that President Clinton made before he left office were better or worse than the pardons made by previous presidents, or were they about the same?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Better	6	7	10	3	7	4	8
Worse	41	45	28	37	72	45	37
About the same	41	39	58	47	13	40	42
Don't know	12	9	4	13	8	11	13

Base is too small to break out some subgroups.

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q61: Why do you think the Republicans in Congress are investigating some of Clinton's presidential pardons? Is it because the Republicans in Congress believe that Clinton received compensation in return for the pardons, or is it because the Republicans in Congress are pursuing the investigation for political gain?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>WHT</u>	<u>BLK</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Believe he received compensation	40	43	26	43	64	45	20	41	40
Pursuing it for political gain	47	46	65	48	23	42	72	48	45
Don't know	13	11	9	9	13	13	8	11	15

Tables compiled by RAY ENSLOW