

April 30, 2001 — Study #458

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

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

The Times Poll contacted 813 adults nationwide by telephone April 21–26. In addition, separate samples of 512 Californians, 553 adults residing in the Mountain States (which includes Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada), 332 Oregonians, 317 Washingtonians and 322 Alaskans were contacted. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation, California, the Mountain States, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. Random-digit dialing techniques were used so that listed and unlisted 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 for the national sample is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points, for California and the Mountain States it is 4 points and for Oregon, Washington and Alaska it is 5.5 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 April 21–26, 2001

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

GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

NAT	All U.S. adults
EAS	Residents of the East
MID	Residents of the Midwest
SOU	Residents of the South
WES	Residents of the West
CA	Residents of California
MTN	Residents of the Mountain States
AK	Residents of Alaska
OR	Residents of Oregon
WA	Residents of Washington

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

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Right direction	44	46	45	35	55
Wrong track	43	40	43	58	24
Don't know	13	14	12	7	21
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Right direction	46	47	53	36	48
Wrong track	40	39	38	54	42
Don't know	14	14	9	10	10

Q2: When it comes to ensuring a healthy environment for the future, do you think the country is going in the right direction or is it seriously off on the wrong track?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Right direction	41	36	39	39	50
Wrong track	48	47	52	52	40
Don't know	11	17	9	9	10
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Right direction	43	38	46	33	40
Wrong track	47	51	46	57	52
Don't know	10	11	8	10	8

Q3: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Approve	57	47	64	55	63
Disapprove	33	43	29	33	24
Don't know	10	10	7	12	13
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Approve	54	60	65	54	50
Disapprove	32	28	22	37	39
Don't know	14	12	13	9	11

Q4: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the nation's environmental issues?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Approve	41	29	45	46	43
Disapprove	38	52	33	35	33
Don't know	21	19	22	19	24
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Approve	33	43	55	41	33
Disapprove	42	33	27	46	49
Don't know	25	24	18	13	18

Q5: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Approve	52	47	54	52	54
Disapprove	32	32	37	37	22
Don't know	16	21	9	11	24
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Approve	48	61	60	55	48
Disapprove	39	25	22	33	38
Don't know	13	14	18	12	14

Q6: Which political party do you think does a better job in Congress when it comes to handling environmental issues, the Democrats or the Republicans?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Democrats	54	60	50	52	55
Republicans	23	25	25	21	21
Neither (Vol.)	7	3	8	10	5
Don't know	16	12	17	17	19
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Democrats	57	42	37	48	60
Republicans	20	31	36	23	17
Neither (Vol.)	14	12	15	17	10
Don't know	9	15	12	12	13

Q7: What's the most important problem facing this country today? Is there another problem you think is almost as important? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES) (TOP FIVE RESPONSES SHOWN)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Economy/Jobs	27	28	27	29	24
Crime/Drugs	15	14	15	12	20
Education	15	15	15	16	11
Environment	13	19	8	13	9
Morals/Family values	10	4	14	10	11
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Economy/Jobs	22	18	12	15	18
Crime/Drugs	10	14	12	10	9
Education	21	15	17	21	20
Environment	7	14	13	15	17
Morals/Family values	8	14	12	11	13

Q8: Do you think the Bush administration is doing too much or too little in terms of protecting the environment, or do you think the Bush administration is doing just about the right amount in terms of environmental protection?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Too much	1	-	3	2	-
Too little	41	56	36	31	42
Right amount	36	29	35	47	29
Don't know	22	15	26	20	29
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Too much	2	2	5	4	4
Too little	48	45	32	49	53
Right amount	33	37	47	37	30
Don't know	17	16	16	10	13

Q9: Generally speaking, do you think improving the environment conflicts with economic growth, or do you think improving the environment does not have to conflict with economic growth? (IF CONFLICT) Do you think it conflicts always or most of the time or some of the time?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Conflict (Net)	41	39	36	40	48
Always	5	4	6	5	6
Most of time	17	13	18	15	22
Some of time	19	22	12	20	21
No conflict	53	59	57	53	43
Don't know	6	2	7	7	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Conflict (Net)	42	34	26	38	28
Always	5	7	4	6	7
Most of time	15	12	9	16	5
Some of time	22	15	13	16	16
No conflict	54	61	68	59	69
Don't know	4	5	6	3	3

Q10: Whether or not you personally think improving the environment conflicts with economic growth, if there is conflict, which should take priority: improving the environment or economic growth?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Environment	50	53	51	48	49
Economy	36	29	33	41	39
Don't know	14	18	16	11	12
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Environment	52	49	44	52	58
Economy	36	35	41	37	27
Don't know	12	16	15	11	15

Q11: What's the most important environmental problem facing this country today? (ACCEPTED ONE REPLY) (TOP FOUR RESPONSES SHOWN)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Pollution	19	23	15	17	22
Air quality	9	12	5	11	9
Global warming/Ozone layer	6	2	10	4	8
Energy production	5	3	6	4	6

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Pollution	17	18	13	18	15
Air quality	14	12	9	11	11
Global warming/Ozone layer	8	7	6	6	7
Energy production	8	3	7	9	3

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO MENTIONED AN ISSUE)

Q12: Based on your reply to the previous question about the most important environmental problem facing the country today, over the last 10 years, has that problem gotten better or gotten worse or has it stayed about the same?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Better	20	29	23	16	12
About the same	25	20	29	22	30
Worse	51	49	45	54	53
Don't know	4	2	3	8	5

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Better	20	16	14	18	14
About the same	21	18	19	17	22
Worse	57	64	65	63	60
Don't know	2	2	2	2	4

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q13: Which of the following statements comes closer to your view: "Many businesses can be trusted to take good care of the nation's natural resources, and the government should intervene only in the worst cases," or "Many businesses will cut corners and damage the environment unless strong government rules and regulations are in place"? (STATEMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Businesses can be trusted	27	14	35	24	35
Businesses will cut corners	65	72	58	68	62
Don't know	8	14	7	8	3

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Businesses can be trusted	33	30	39	30	26
Businesses will cut corners	63	65	55	68	68
Don't know	4	5	6	2	6

Q14: Have you heard or read anything about the issue of global warming? (IF HEARD OR READ) As you may know, scientists have found evidence that the earth's climate is warming. From what you have heard or read, do you think global warming is a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, not too much of a serious problem or not a serious problem at all?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Serious problem (Net)	68	75	65	69	61
Very serious	33	34	30	34	34
Somewhat serious	35	41	35	35	27
Not serious problem (Net)	14	10	18	14	15
Not too much	8	7	13	7	7
Not at all serious	6	3	5	7	9
Haven't heard or read	14	12	15	10	20
Don't know	4	3	2	7	4

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Serious problem (Net)	65	63	68	71	77
Very serious	33	32	37	36	41
Somewhat serious	32	31	31	35	36
Not serious problem (Net)	19	28	25	23	16
Not too much	12	15	14	12	10
Not at all serious	7	13	11	11	6
Haven't heard or read	15	8	4	3	6
Don't know	1	1	3	3	1

(ASKED OF EVERYONE EXCEPT THOSE WHO SAID "HAVEN'T HEARD/READ ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING")

Q15: From what you have heard or read about global warming, what do you think is causing it? Do you think it is caused more by human activities, such as driving cars and burning fuel, or is it caused more by natural changes in the climate?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Human activities	60	75	56	58	53
Natural changes	20	8	24	24	21
Both (Vol.)	15	16	16	11	19
Don't know	5	1	4	7	7

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Human activities	58	54	42	51	62
Natural changes	21	31	37	28	23
Both (Vol.)	17	11	18	14	12
Don't know	4	4	3	7	3

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q16: George W. Bush reversed a campaign promise to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide from power plants, which many experts believe contributes to global warming. He said that requiring carbon dioxide controls at this time would add too much to the cost of power production and that the nation instead needs an overall national energy strategy. Do you support or oppose Bush's decision not to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide from power plants?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	34	31	31	37	38
Oppose	54	62	60	49	44
Don't know	12	7	9	14	18
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	34	42	41	36	35
Oppose	56	51	50	55	57
Don't know	10	7	9	9	8

Q17: Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about why George W. Bush reversed his position on reducing carbon dioxide emissions:

“George W. Bush and some of his key advisors are closely allied with the energy industry, which does not want carbon dioxide emissions reduced,” or
 “George W. Bush now believes there is not enough proof that carbon dioxide emissions cause global warming to justify the costs”? (STATEMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Allied with energy industry	45	50	44	46	41
Not enough proof	36	29	37	38	41
Don't know	19	21	19	16	18
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Allied with energy industry	54	46	46	49	58
Not enough proof	26	38	36	36	24
Don't know	20	16	18	15	18

Q18: The U.S. and many of its allies signed an international treaty known as the Kyoto Accord under which many developed countries promised to limit production of gases such as carbon dioxide. Opponents say its provisions would hurt the United States' economy by restricting use of coal, oil and other fossil fuels, and that the Accord places an unfair burden on the United States when compared with other countries. Supporters say the United States is a major producer of the gases which cause global warming and should do its part in reducing them. What do you think? Do you think the U.S. should abide by the provisions of the Kyoto Accord, or not? (ARGUMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Abide by Kyoto Accord	59	68	57	62	46
Do not abide by Accord	21	19	27	23	15
Don't know	20	13	16	15	39

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Abide by Kyoto Accord	64	59	60	60	64
Do not abide by Accord	18	24	23	25	20
Don't know	18	17	17	15	16

Q19: One suggestion for reducing the problem of global warming is to increase the use of nuclear power as a source of energy and to decrease the use of fossil fuels, such as oil and gas. Would you, personally, support or oppose the increased use of nuclear power as a source of energy in order to prevent global warming?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	52	44	54	61	43
Oppose	33	43	34	30	27
Don't know	15	13	12	9	30
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	57	60	49	49	59
Oppose	34	30	41	41	32
Don't know	9	10	10	10	9

Q20: Have you ever visited a national park, or not? (IF YES) How often do you visit national parks: at least once a year, once every couple of years or rarely?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Have visited (Net)	72	71	64	69	88
At least once/year	23	17	20	24	32
Every couple of years	22	26	22	18	23
Rarely	27	28	22	27	32
Never visited	27	28	36	28	12
Don't know	1	1	-	3	-
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Have visited (Net)	84	92	90	91	91
At least once/year	33	46	59	40	46
Every couple of years	24	24	16	24	31
Rarely	27	22	15	27	15
Never visited	16	8	10	8	8
Don't know	-	-	-	1	1

Q21: Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about the future of the country's national parks system: “The government should expand the national parks system by creating new parks and adding land to existing ones”, or “The government should not expand the national parks system, but should instead concentrate on upgrading facilities and roads in the existing parks”? (STATEMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Expand parks	38	44	35	46	23
Upgrade facilities	55	42	63	46	72
Don't know	7	14	2	8	5
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Expand parks	45	42	34	36	48
Upgrade facilities	53	54	63	63	48
Don't know	2	4	3	1	4

Q22: A few years ago, the U.S. Forest Service began charging people a user fee to visit national forests. Opponents say that because these are public lands, access to them should be free. Supporters say that anyone who uses public lands for their enjoyment should be required to pay a user fee. What do you think? Should access to public lands be free, or do you think those who use public lands should pay a user fee? (ARGUMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Free	42	41	47	45	35
User fee	51	56	48	46	56
Don't know	7	3	5	9	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Free	35	31	41	37	32
User fee	62	67	56	59	66
Don't know	3	2	3	4	2

Q23: The federal government manages millions of acres of public lands. In its management of the public lands, should the federal government pay more attention to the views of people who live nearby or should it give an equal say to the views of all Americans?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
More attention to locals	34	28	29	40	36
Equal say to all Americans	61	69	65	54	59
Don't know	5	3	6	6	5
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
More attention to locals	34	46	54	46	38
Equal say to all Americans	63	51	40	47	57
Don't know	3	3	6	7	5

Q24: All things considered, who do you think would do a better job of managing the nation's parks: private business, or the federal government?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Private business	31	26	32	33	31
Federal government	56	62	57	54	55
Neither (Vol.)	2	2	2	2	1
Both (Vol.)	4	1	4	4	6
Don't know	7	9	5	7	7
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Private business	34	34	36	30	25
Federal government	44	48	48	54	54
Neither (Vol.)	6	6	6	4	6
Both (Vol.)	9	6	8	6	10
Don't know	7	6	2	6	5

Q25: Some national parks are very popular and draw large crowds. In managing those parks, officials must decide between providing more access to the public by adding roads and accommodations, or protecting natural habitats and wildlife by not increasing, or even restricting, public access. Would you prefer to see park officials provide greater public access to the most popular parks, or would you prefer that they restrict public access in order to protect the natural habitats and wildlife?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Greater access	20	15	15	25	23
Restrict access	70	79	79	65	61
Don't know	10	6	6	10	16
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Greater access	24	23	27	20	23
Restrict access	69	71	68	72	73
Don't know	7	6	5	8	4

Q26: One proposed system of reducing the impact of motor vehicle traffic on the most popular national parks is to require motorists to park their vehicles and use buses, trams or other forms of public transportation to reach places inside the national park. Would you favor or oppose such a system?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Favor	82	85	87	80	77
Oppose	13	13	11	13	14
Don't know	5	2	2	7	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Favor	80	80	82	77	77
Oppose	13	19	15	18	22
Don't know	7	1	3	5	1

Q27: Which do you think is more important: protecting endangered species from extinction even if some people may not be able to develop the land they own, or protecting the right of property owners to do what they want with their land, even though some species might become extinct as a result?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Protect species	58	57	65	51	61
Protect property rights	34	36	28	38	30
Don't know	8	7	7	11	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Protect species	51	52	52	45	56
Protect property rights	35	38	39	44	34
Don't know	14	10	9	11	10

Q28: Wolves and grizzly bears are no longer found in many areas of the western United States. Some people think it is a good idea to restore these species to their original habitats, while others think it is a bad idea because it poses a possible danger to people or livestock. How about you? Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea to bring wolves and grizzly bears back to their original habitats in the West?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Good idea	53	61	52	50	50
Bad idea	36	31	37	36	41
Don't know	11	8	11	14	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Good idea	53	56	51	53	54
Bad idea	39	37	43	41	39
Don't know	8	7	6	6	7

Q29: Do you favor protecting the areas where wolves and grizzly bears are still living now, even if it means limiting commercial activities such as logging, building roads, mining and oil or gas drilling in those areas, or do you oppose that?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Favor	69	75	72	61	71
Oppose	21	17	20	28	14
Don't know	10	8	8	11	15
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Favor	74	75	61	70	77
Oppose	18	20	36	28	19
Don't know	8	5	3	2	4

Q30: Do you think protecting the environment 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 important issue at all?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Important (Net)	88	93	84	90	84
Top priority	15	23	14	13	11
Not top priority	73	71	70	78	73
Not important (Net)	10	4	13	9	16
Not so important	7	3	10	5	9
Not at all	4	1	3	4	7
Don't know	2	3	3	1	-
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Important (Net)	90	91	90	90	93
Top priority	14	19	13	17	21
Not top priority	76	72	77	73	72
Not important (Net)	8	8	10	9	7
Not so important	7	7	6	7	6
Not at all	2	1	4	2	1
Don't know	2	1	-	1	-

Q31: Generally speaking, would you say that George W. Bush cares more about the needs of the environment than he does about the needs of business, or does he care more about the needs of business than he does about the environment?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
More about environment	13	12	15	16	9
More about business	58	62	62	58	52
Both equally (Vol.)	10	10	13	9	8
Don't know	19	16	10	17	31
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
More about environment	9	9	11	6	8
More about business	69	63	58	70	74
Both equally (Vol.)	7	11	11	12	7
Don't know	15	17	20	12	11

Q32: Are you concerned, or not concerned, that George W. Bush will go too far in allowing development and exploration of natural resources in wilderness land?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Concerned	49	65	47	44	41
Not concerned	40	26	45	42	47
Don't know	11	9	8	14	12
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Concerned	55	48	37	52	57
Not concerned	34	44	54	40	36
Don't know	11	8	9	8	7

Q33: Before President Clinton left office he ordered a ban on logging and road building on nearly 60 million acres of national forests, or about 30 percent of the total acreage in the forest system. Supporters say the ban is needed to protect the forests and the wildlife that lives in them. Opponents say it will cut too deeply into the nation's timber supply and increase the likelihood of forest fires. How about you? Do you approve or disapprove of the ban on logging and road building in national forests, or not? (ARGUMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Approve	58	60	58	53	61
Disapprove	32	28	33	37	29
Don't know	10	12	9	10	10
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Approve	63	54	37	53	60
Disapprove	32	40	58	44	34
Don't know	5	6	5	3	6

Q34: Before President Clinton left office, he set aside millions of acres of federal lands as national monuments, saying they are environmentally important areas that should be protected from development. Aides to President Bush say the new administration may change some of those orders and open the land to commercial use, such as mining, logging and off-road vehicles. Would you support or oppose opening up these lands to commercial use?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	24	18	26	28	24
Oppose	65	73	65	62	61
Don't know	11	9	9	10	15
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	30	37	51	44	32
Oppose	66	57	40	51	58
Don't know	4	6	9	5	10

Q35: One proposal in President Bush's budget to Congress would give the Interior Secretary authority to decide which plants and animals should be protected under the 1973 Endangered Species Act. It would also limit the right of the public to sue the Interior Department to get rare plants and animals listed and their habitats designated.

Supporters say that this proposal is an effort to break a log-jam of lawsuits that has hindered the law's effectiveness and instead concentrate on saving threatened species and habitats.

Opponents say the right to sue has saved such endangered species as the Spotted Owl and is an important tool in the fight to save endangered species and habitats from extinction.

How about you? Do you support or oppose putting a limit on public lawsuits under the Endangered Species Act? (ARGUMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	49	46	49	57	40
Oppose	38	42	42	27	44
Haven't heard enough (Vol.)	3	2	2	6	2
Don't know	10	10	7	10	14
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	45	52	51	48	42
Oppose	42	33	39	45	46
Haven't heard enough (Vol.)	2	3	1	1	2
Don't know	11	12	9	6	10

Q36: Have you heard or read anything about the controversy over acceptable arsenic levels in the public water supply? (IF HEARD OR READ) Have you heard or read a great deal about it, or only some, or not too much?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Great deal/Some (Net)	33	36	32	31	32
Great deal	9	6	8	10	7
Some	24	30	24	20	25
Not much/Nothing (Net)	66	62	66	68	67
Not too much	17	22	17	15	16
Nothing	49	40	49	54	51
Don't know	1	2	2	1	1
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Great deal/Some (Net)	43	48	40	53	45
Great deal	10	18	10	16	14
Some	33	30	30	36	31
Not much/Nothing (Net)	56	52	58	47	54
Not too much	13	17	16	15	15
Nothing	43	35	42	33	39
Don't know	1	-	2	-	1

Q37: Arsenic is a known cancer-causing agent which occurs in water either naturally or because of activities such as mining. Federal regulations set limits on the level of arsenic allowable in drinking water. George W. Bush overturned a Clinton administration ruling which would have reduced that level by 80 percent. Bush said that Clinton's proposed rule would cost local water districts too much money and that his administration would find a less costly way to reduce arsenic levels. Do you support or oppose Bush's action in overturning the regulations to reduce arsenic in drinking water?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	34	26	35	36	38
Oppose	56	61	55	54	53
Don't know	10	13	10	10	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	33	45	43	38	34
Oppose	60	43	48	53	56
Don't know	7	12	9	9	10

Q38: About five percent of U.S. land is protected as wilderness. Do you feel that is too much land, or too little, or is that about the right amount of land to be protected as wilderness?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Too much	3	2	2	4	2
Too little	40	47	40	36	37
Right amount	50	44	52	53	50
Don't know	7	7	6	7	11

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Too much	1	4	8	2	4
Too little	43	44	39	40	45
Right amount	49	47	47	51	44
Don't know	7	5	6	7	7

Q39: How important is it to you personally that wilderness and open spaces are preserved? Is it extremely important, or somewhat important, or not very important, or isn't the preservation of wilderness and open spaces important to you at all?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Important (Net)	91	92	90	89	93
Extremely	51	61	47	46	52
Somewhat	40	31	42	43	41
Not important (Net)	7	4	8	8	7
Not very	5	4	8	6	3
Not at all	2	-	1	2	4
Don't know	2	4	2	3	-

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Important (Net)	89	92	94	93	94
Extremely	51	58	53	55	54
Somewhat	39	34	41	38	41
Not important (Net)	10	7	6	6	5
Not very	8	4	3	5	3
Not at all	1	3	3	1	1
Don't know	1	1	-	1	1

Q40: Do you favor or oppose allowing motorized vehicles such as cars, off-road vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles and sport utility vehicles to have access to wilderness areas in the United States?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Favor	30	25	36	30	30
Oppose	62	69	62	56	63
Don't know	8	6	2	14	7

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Favor	37	32	54	32	34
Oppose	60	62	42	63	63
Don't know	3	6	4	5	3

Q41: California has been suffering from shortages of electricity in recent months. Based on what you know, who do you think is most to blame for the power shortages in California? Would you say the California state government is most to blame, or the federal government, or local power companies, or consumers, or power suppliers outside the state, or deregulation in general, or is there something or someone else you think is most to blame for the problems in California? Is there something or someone else you think is to blame? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
State government	27	37	22	26	23
Local power companies	21	29	19	18	20
Deregulation in general	20	20	19	16	27
Consumers	12	9	20	10	9
Federal government	6	3	3	12	5
Out-of-state power suppliers	6	4	7	5	7
Environmentalists	1	-	2	1	1
Overpopulation	-	1	-	-	-
All of the above	2	1	1	3	2
Other	3	-	2	6	3
No one in particular (Vol.)	2	1	4	1	-
Don't know	15	15	16	17	14

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
State government	26	31	30	29	30
Local power companies	22	21	12	18	17
Deregulation in general	35	16	22	25	37
Consumers	4	14	21	17	6
Federal government	5	5	4	4	4
Out-of-state power suppliers	11	8	5	8	8
Environmentalists	1	3	1	2	4
Overpopulation	1	2	-	-	-
Gov. Gray Davis	1	-	-	-	-
All of the above	3	1	-	1	3
Other	4	3	3	6	2
No one in particular (Vol.)	2	4	6	1	1
Don't know	6	10	13	6	7

Q42: There has been an increase in the sale of sport utility vehicles and other large automobiles around the country. These cars use more gas per mile than other automobiles. Environmental groups say the government should require the auto industry to improve fuel efficiency for SUVs to help the country meet its energy needs. The auto industry says that doing so would raise the price of new cars. Based on this, do you support or oppose government action to require improved gas mileage for SUVs?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	73	78	74	78	62
Oppose	21	18	20	18	27
Don't know	6	4	6	4	11

	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	79	76	70	74	72
Oppose	18	19	28	20	24
Don't know	3	5	2	6	4

Q43: Have you heard or read about President Bush's recommendation about opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for oil and gas exploration? (IF HEARD OR READ) Have you heard or read a great deal, or only some, or not too much?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Great deal/Some (Net)	44	50	44	43	38
Great deal	16	14	17	17	15
Some	28	35	27	26	23
Not much/Nothing (Net)	54	49	56	52	61
Not too much	13	14	16	11	13
Nothing	41	36	40	41	48
Don't know	2	1	-	5	1
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Great deal/Some (Net)	44	50	88	64	62
Great deal	15	22	69	34	26
Some	29	29	19	30	36
Not much/Nothing (Net)	55	46	11	36	37
Not too much	9	9	3	13	9
Nothing	46	37	8	23	28
Don't know	1	4	1	-	1

Q44: Geologists estimate that the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska could supply enough oil to fuel U.S. consumption for between six months and three years. Supporters of drilling say the country needs to do whatever it can to expand oil supplies. Opponents of drilling say it would damage the environment in an unspoiled part of the country. What do you think? Do you approve or disapprove of drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska? (ARGUMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Approve	34	25	32	40	37
Disapprove	55	63	62	46	52
Don't know	11	12	6	14	11
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Approve	32	35	65	35	34
Disapprove	57	57	34	64	61
Don't know	11	8	1	1	5

Q45: The Bush administration is thinking of opening up national forests in the northern Rocky Mountains for oil and gas drilling. Do you support or oppose this?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Support	32	23	27	38	37
Oppose	57	69	65	48	51
Don't know	11	8	8	14	12
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Support	26	34	51	38	32
Oppose	64	54	38	54	58
Don't know	10	12	11	8	10

Q46: How much commercial oil and gas drilling, mining and logging do you think the federal government should permit on public lands? Should drilling, mining and logging be allowed on all public lands, or should they be restricted to specific areas on a case-by-case basis, or should no public lands be opened for drilling, mining and logging?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
All public lands	4	2	4	3	4
Case-by-case basis	73	79	68	71	77
No public lands	16	16	23	13	13
Don't know	7	3	5	13	6
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
All public lands	3	5	6	7	6
Case-by-case basis	83	78	84	76	82
No public lands	11	11	9	16	10
Don't know	3	6	1	1	2

Q47: Supporters of oil and gas drilling say it can be done in ways that minimize harm to the environment. Opponents say that in practice, that seldom happens. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view:

“Drilling is usually done in a way that harms the environment and should not be allowed in environmentally important areas,” or
 “Drilling can be done safely and should be allowed in environmentally important areas with proper controls in place,” or
 “The nation’s energy needs are so pressing that drilling should be allowed even if environmentally important areas may suffer damage as a result?” (STATEMENTS ROTATED)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Should not be allowed	33	33	34	30	34
Allowed with proper controls	52	55	49	52	52
Allowed even if damage	10	5	14	13	7
Don't know	5	7	3	5	7
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Should not be allowed	29	31	18	29	34
Allowed with proper controls	57	57	71	52	57
Allowed even if damage	10	8	9	12	5
Don't know	4	4	2	7	4

Q48: Environmental organizations generally say that the best way to improve the nation's energy situation is conservation, making more efficient use of what we have with such things as better gas mileage for cars, improved insulation of homes and less wasteful factories. Energy industry officials generally say that conservation can play a role, but that ultimately the country needs new supplies of oil, gas and coal. What do you think? Do you think the nation's energy policy should put a greater emphasis on conservation, or should the nation's energy policy put a greater emphasis on finding new energy supplies, or should both of these be stressed equally?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Conservation	15	22	13	15	13
New energy supplies	17	16	19	16	15
Both equally	61	51	62	66	63
Don't know	7	11	6	3	9
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Conservation	23	20	29	25	25
New energy supplies	16	14	13	14	10
Both equally	58	61	55	57	61
Don't know	3	5	3	4	4

Q49: The Bush administration has upheld some of President Clinton's environmental regulations, including a rule that increases protection of wetlands and another that greatly expands the list of businesses that must tell the public details of their emissions of lead into the air, soil and water. From what you know, do you think the Bush administration upheld these rulings out of concern for the environment or for political reasons?

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Concerned about environment	22	22	23	21	21
Political reasons	54	52	58	54	54
Both (Vol.)	9	10	8	10	6
Don't know	15	16	11	15	19
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Concerned about environment	21	27	28	26	26
Political reasons	63	50	46	53	57
Both (Vol.)	3	5	10	4	4
Don't know	13	18	16	17	13

Q51: Some people participate in environmental causes and some people do not. During the past four years, have you participated in any type of environmental activism in your community? For example, have you written or phoned a government official, or donated money to a group working to help the environment, or attended a meeting, or volunteered, or have you done something else, or don't you participate in environmental causes? (ACCEPTED UP TO FOUR REPLIES)

	<u>NAT</u>	<u>EAS</u>	<u>MID</u>	<u>SOU</u>	<u>WES</u>
Don't participate	58	58	54	56	66
Participate (Net)	41	40	46	43	34
Donated money	19	19	25	18	12
Volunteered	15	16	15	19	8
Attended meeting	9	9	9	10	10
Contacted official	7	9	6	7	9
Recycled	4	5	3	2	6
Cleaned up public areas	1	-	-	1	-
Planted trees	-	-	-	1	-
Other	2	2	2	1	2
Don't know	1	2	-	1	-
	<u>CA</u>	<u>MTN</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>WA</u>
Don't participate	51	46	51	46	49
Participate (Net)	47	51	44	54	50
Donated money	18	25	18	22	20
Volunteered	20	17	19	21	15
Attended meeting	10	16	13	16	12
Contacted official	9	15	11	15	12
Recycled	4	3	1	6	5
Cleaned up public areas	-	1	1	-	1
Planted trees	-	1	1	1	3
Other	2	3	4	2	4
Don't know	2	3	5	-	1

Tables compiled by RAY ENSLOW