



# LOS ANGELES TIMES POLL

## Study #462: Nation Terrorism in America September 2001

The Times Poll interviewed 1,561 adults nationwide by telephone Sept. 13–14, 2001.  
The margin of sampling error for the entire sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.  
For subgroups the error margin may vary.

### GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

ALL	All U.S. adults
MEN	Men
WOM	Women
DEM	Self-described Democrats
IND	Self-described independents
REP	Self-described Republicans

### NOTES

- All answer frequencies are given in percentages.
- “–” indicates less than 0.5%.
- Totals may exceed 100% in questions where more than one response was accepted.
- Trend: The letters “a,” “b,”... next to the survey date in the historical data indicate that more than one telephone survey was conducted in that month; “a” designates the earliest survey, “b” the next, etc. Results shown in the historical data are for the entire sample (“ALL”) unless otherwise indicated. “RV” indicates registered voters.
- Questions not displayed are used for classification purposes.

### 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	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Right direction	60	65	56	52	58	74
Wrong track	28	23	33	33	30	19
Don't know	12	12	11	15	12	7

### TREND FOR QUESTION 1

	4/01 <sup>b</sup> ALL	3/01 <sup>b</sup> ALL	12/00 ALL	9/00 RV	8/00 RV	7/00 RV	6/00 ALL
Right direction	44	49	49	53	56	49	42
Wrong track	43	40	41	38	36	42	46
Don't know	13	11	10	9	8	9	12

  

	5/00 ALL	11/99 ALL	3/99 <sup>a</sup> ALL	2/99 <sup>b</sup> ALL	2/99 <sup>a</sup> ALL	1/99 ALL	9/98 <sup>a</sup> ALL
Right direction	44	42	43	45	49	53	56
Wrong track	46	47	48	42	42	37	38
Don't know	10	11	9	13	9	10	6

  

	8/98 <sup>a</sup> ALL	1/98 <sup>c</sup> ALL	1/98 <sup>b</sup> ALL	9/97 <sup>a</sup> ALL	2/97 <sup>b</sup> ALL	10/96 <sup>c</sup> ALL	10/96 <sup>a</sup> ALL	9/96 <sup>a</sup> ALL
Right direction	53	53	45	42	41	37	35	42
Wrong track	39	38	44	47	51	54	57	48
Don't know	8	9	11	11	8	9	8	10

  

	8/96 ALL	4/96 ALL	10/95 <sup>c</sup> ALL	9/95 <sup>b</sup> ALL	6/95 <sup>a</sup> ALL	4/95 ALL	3/95 <sup>b</sup> ALL	1/95 <sup>c</sup> ALL
Right direction	31	29	27	25	31	33	30	37
Wrong track	59	61	66	68	58	56	60	51
Don't know	10	10	7	7	11	11	10	12

  

	1/95 <sup>b</sup> ALL	10/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	9/94 <sup>c</sup> ALL	7/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	4/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	1/94 <sup>a</sup> ALL	12/93 ALL	9/93 <sup>b</sup> ALL
Right direction	35	26	30	27	28	36	37	35
Wrong track	55	66	62	64	64	54	52	54
Don't know	10	8	8	9	8	10	11	11

  

	6/93 ALL	2/93 <sup>c</sup> ALL	1/93 ALL	10/92 <sup>d</sup> ALL	10/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	8/92 <sup>c</sup> ALL	8/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	7/92 <sup>b</sup> ALL
Right direction	24	45	36	22	17	23	16	19
Wrong track	68	45	53	70	75	68	77	74
Don't know	8	10	11	8	8	9	7	7

	7/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	3/92 <sup>b</sup> ALL	2/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	11/91 ALL	9/91 ALL	6/91 ALL	4/91 <sup>b</sup> ALL	3/91 <sup>b</sup> ALL
Right direction	17	20	23	23	40	38	48	55
Wrong track	75	72	70	67	49	52	43	34
Don't know	8	8	7	10	11	10	9	11

### Q2: Do you think we are in an economic recession, or not? (IF YES) Do you think we are in a mild recession, or a moderate recession or a serious recession?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
No recession	41	43	38	34	39	50
Recession (Net)	51	50	52	58	48	45
Mild recession	23	23	24	25	21	21
Moderate recession	19	20	18	21	17	19
Serious recession	9	7	11	12	10	5
Don't know	8	7	10	8	13	5

### TREND FOR QUESTION 2

	9/97 <sup>a</sup>	2/97 <sup>b</sup>	10/96 <sup>c</sup>	9/96 <sup>a</sup>	8/96	4/96
No recession	59	62	52	54	47	50
Recession (Net)	35	32	43	37	45	44
Mild recession	12	13	16	16	19	14
Moderate recession	16	14	15	14	15	19
Serious recession	7	6	12	8	11	11
Don't know	6	6	5	9	8	6

  

	10/95 <sup>c</sup>	9/95 <sup>b</sup>	6/95 <sup>a</sup>	3/95 <sup>b</sup>	1/95 <sup>b</sup>	10/94 <sup>b</sup>
No recession	48	50	39	45	49	41
Recession (Net)	47	45	53	50	44	53
Mild recession	15	13	21	20	15	17
Moderate recession	20	20	20	18	18	23
Serious recession	12	12	12	13	11	13
Don't know	5	5	8	5	7	6

  

	7/94 <sup>b</sup>	4/94 <sup>b</sup>	1/94 <sup>a</sup>	12/93	9/93 <sup>b</sup>	6/93	2/93 <sup>c</sup>
No recession	41	43	37	29	23	26	30
Recession (Net)	53	51	58	66	73	70	65
Mild recession	17	17	18	18	16	18	15
Moderate recession	20	22	20	26	27	27	25
Serious recession	16	12	20	22	29	25	25
Don't know	6	6	5	5	4	4	5

  

	1/93	10/92 <sup>d</sup>	10/92 <sup>a</sup>	8/92 <sup>c</sup>	8/92 <sup>a</sup>	7/92 <sup>a</sup>	3/92 <sup>b</sup>
No recession	25	9	11	9	7	10	13
Recession (Net)	71	87	86	88	89	86	84
Mild recession	17	12	15	16	13	12	18
Moderate recession	27	30	26	27	31	33	31
Serious recession	27	46	45	45	45	42	35
Don't know	4	4	3	3	4	4	3

  

	2/92 <sup>a</sup>	11/91	9/91	6/91	4/91 <sup>b</sup>	3/91 <sup>b</sup>	2/91 <sup>a</sup>
No recession	8	12	14	14	17	9	13
Recession (Net)	89	85	82	83	80	88	84
Mild recession	14	17	19	18	25	29	28
Moderate recession	34	35	33	33	34	38	33
Serious recession	41	33	30	32	21	21	23
Don't know	3	3	4	3	3	3	3

[Trend for Question 2 continues on next page.]

QUESTION 2: FOR COMPARISON \*

	12/00
Likely (Net)	64
Very likely	20
Somewhat likely	44
Not likely (Net)	32
Not very likely	22
Not likely at all	10
Don't know	4

\* In this Dec. 2000 national survey, the question was: "In your opinion, how likely is it that the nation could face an economic recession sometime in the next year? Would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely or not likely at all?"

Q3: Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing very well, or fairly well, or fairly badly, or very badly?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Well (Net)	71	72	71	66	68	82
Very well	6	5	7	5	11	5
Fairly well	65	67	65	61	58	76
Badly (Net)	25	24	25	31	28	16
Fairly badly	19	20	18	24	20	15
Very badly	6	4	7	7	7	2
Don't know	4	4	4	3	4	2

TREND FOR QUESTION 3

	3/01 <sup>b</sup>	12/00	9/00	8/00	7/00
	ALL	ALL	RV	RV	RV
Well (Net)	64	82	87	89	88
Very well	7	19	30	37	32
Fairly well	57	63	58	52	57
Badly (Net)	34	17	12	9	9
Fairly badly	25	11	7	7	6
Very badly	9	6	4	2	2
Don't know	2	1	1	2	3

  

	5/00	11/99	1/99	9/98 <sup>a</sup>	1/98 <sup>c</sup>	9/97 <sup>a</sup>
	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL
Well (Net)	84	83	89	88	86	73
Very well	25	31	32	28	26	16
Fairly well	60	52	57	59	59	57
Badly (Net)	14	14	8	11	12	25
Fairly badly	8	10	5	8	8	18
Very badly	5	5	3	4	5	7
Don't know	2	3	3	1	2	2

QUESTION 3: FOR COMPARISON \*

	1/95 <sup>c</sup>	10/94 <sup>b</sup>	7/94 <sup>b</sup>	4/94 <sup>b</sup>	1/94 <sup>a</sup>	12/93	9/93 <sup>b</sup>
Robust (Net)	40	34	34	32	31	22	18
Very robust	3	2	3	2	1	1	1
Fairly robust	37	32	31	30	30	21	17
Shaky (Net)	58	63	62	65	66	74	79
Fairly shaky	40	45	42	47	46	52	49
Very shaky	18	18	20	18	20	22	30
Don't know	2	3	4	3	3	4	3

  

	6/93	2/93 <sup>c</sup>	1/93	11/91	9/91	6/91	4/91 <sup>b</sup>
Robust (Net)	16	20	21	11	20	16	25
Very robust	1	1	1	1	1	-	2
Fairly robust	15	19	20	10	19	16	24
Shaky (Net)	83	77	77	87	79	82	73
Fairly shaky	55	51	51	55	51	55	54
Very shaky	28	26	26	32	28	27	18
Don't know	1	3	2	2	1	2	2

\* In these earlier national polls, the question was: "Would you describe the nation's economy these days as very robust, fairly robust, fairly shaky or very shaky?"

Q4: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	77	79	76	64	77	95
Approve strongly	49	49	49	28	50	81
Approve somewhat	28	30	26	36	28	14
Disapprove (Net)	17	16	18	30	15	3
Disapprove somewhat	8	6	9	13	7	1
Disapprove strongly	9	9	10	17	7	2
Don't know	6	5	6	6	8	2

TREND FOR QUESTION 4

	401 <sup>b</sup>	3/01 <sup>b</sup>
Approve (Net)	57	62
Approve strongly	29	38
Approve somewhat	28	25
Disapprove (Net)	33	18
Disapprove somewhat	12	6
Disapprove strongly	21	12
Don't know	10	20

Q4 COMPARE: GEORGE H. W. BUSH \*

	AFTER JAN. 16, 1991	11/91	9/91	8/91 <sup>c</sup>	6/91	4/91 <sup>b</sup>	3/91 <sup>b</sup>	2/91 <sup>a</sup>	1/91 <sup>b</sup>
Approve (Net)	53	65	73	74	82	84	82	85	
Approve strongly	16	28	35	32	41	51	54	61	
Approve somewhat	37	37	38	42	41	33	29	25	
Disapprove (Net)	41	29	23	23	16	13	14	12	
Disapprove somewhat	20	14	12	10	9	6	6	6	
Disapprove strongly	21	14	11	13	7	7	8	6	
Don't know	6	6	4	3	2	3	4	3	

  

	BEFORE JAN. 16, 1991	1/91 <sup>a</sup>	12/90
Approve (Net)	67	64	
Approve strongly	31	25	
Approve somewhat	35	39	
Disapprove (Net)	27	29	
Disapprove somewhat	14	14	
Disapprove strongly	14	15	
Don't know	6	7	

\* These national surveys show George H. W. Bush's job approval ratings before and after the start of the Desert Storm air offensive on Jan. 16, 1991, and in subsequent months.

Q4 COMPARE: JIMMY CARTER †

	Gallup Polls								
	AFTER NOV. 4, 1979	6/80	5/80	4/80	3/80	2/80	1/80	12/79	11/79
Approve	31	38	39	43	55	58	54	38	
Disapprove	58	51	50	45	36	32	35	49	
Don't know	11	11	11	12	9	10	11	13	

  

	BEFORE NOV. 4, 1979	10/79	9/79
Approve	29	30	
Disapprove	58	55	
Don't know	13	15	

† These national surveys conducted by the Gallup Organization show Jimmy Carter's job approval ratings before and after the seizure of the U.S. embassy and hostages in Tehran by Iranian militants on Nov. 4, 1979, and in subsequent months.

Q5: Do you approve or disapprove of the United States' attempt to bring peace to the Middle East by serving as mediator between Israel and the Palestinians? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	62	66	58	58	63	71
Approve strongly	36	40	32	34	37	39
Approve somewhat	26	26	26	24	26	31
Disapprove (Net)	26	28	24	27	22	21
Disapprove somewhat	13	13	13	13	13	8
Disapprove strongly	13	15	11	14	9	14
Don't know	12	6	18	15	15	8

Thinking now about recent events...

Q6: How serious a problem is terrorism in the United States today—very serious, only somewhat serious or hardly serious at all?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Serious (Net)	99	98	99	98	98	99
Very serious	87	84	90	87	89	88
Somewhat serious	11	14	9	12	9	11
Hardly serious	1	1	1	1	2	1
Don't know	-	1	-	1	-	-

[Trend for Question 6 begins on next page.]

QUESTION 6: FOR COMPARISON \*

	8/98 <sup>b</sup>	
Serious (Net)	<b>88</b>	
Very serious	<b>54</b>	
Somewhat serious	<b>34</b>	
Not serious (Net)	<b>9</b>	
Not too serious	<b>7</b>	
Not serious at all	<b>2</b>	
Don't know	<b>3</b>	

\* In this Aug. 1998 national survey (conducted shortly after U.S. retaliatory strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan in response to the bombing of U.S. embassies in Africa), the question was worded: "How serious a problem do you feel terrorism is here in the United States—very serious, or only somewhat serious, or not too serious, or not serious at all?"

QUESTION 6: FOR COMPARISON †

	8/96	4/95
Very serious	<b>41</b>	<b>49</b>
Somewhat serious	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>
Hardly serious	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
Don't know	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

† In these earlier national surveys, the question was worded: "How serious do you feel terrorism is here in the United States—very serious, only somewhat serious or hardly serious at all?" The Aug. 1996 poll was conducted shortly after the crash of TWA flight 800 in East Moriches, N.Y. The April 1995 poll was conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City.

**Q7: How closely have you been following the news about the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center buildings in New York and at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., last Tuesday? Have you been following it very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not closely at all?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Closely (Net)	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>
Very closely	<b>83</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>88</b>
Somewhat closely	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>
Not closely (Net)	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Not too closely	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Not closely at all	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

QUESTION 7: FOR COMPARISON \*

	8/98 <sup>b</sup>	
Closely (Net)	<b>76</b>	
Very closely	<b>31</b>	
Somewhat closely	<b>45</b>	
Not closely (Net)	<b>24</b>	
Not too closely	<b>20</b>	
Not at all	<b>4</b>	

\* In this Aug. 1998 national survey (conducted shortly after U.S. retaliatory strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan in response to the bombing of U.S. embassies in Africa), the question was: "How closely have you been following news of U.S. missile strikes against terrorist camps in Sudan and Afghanistan? Have you been following it very closely, or somewhat closely, or not too closely, or not at all?"

QUESTION 7: FOR COMPARISON †

	10/95 <sup>a</sup>	
Closely (Net)	<b>66</b>	
Very closely	<b>24</b>	
Somewhat closely	<b>41</b>	
Not closely (Net)	<b>34</b>	
Not too closely	<b>23</b>	
Not at all closely	<b>11</b>	

† In this Oct. 1995 national survey (conducted shortly after the verdict was announced in the O.J. Simpson murder trial), the question was: "How closely have you been following news about the trial of former football star O.J. Simpson on murder charges in the deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman? Are you following that very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"

**Q8: Now thinking back to how you felt before the terrorist attack on Tuesday, would you say that you felt that the United States was immune to a terrorist attack of this magnitude, or did you feel it was just a matter of time before something like this happened? (ACCEPTED "NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
U.S. immune	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>
Matter of time	<b>66</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>67</b>
Never thought about it	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
Don't know	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

**Q9: Do you think that the terrorist attack last Tuesday will result in a fundamental change in the way Americans live their daily lives, or do you think that Americans will soon go back to business as usual?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Fundamental change	<b>57</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>58</b>
Business as usual	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>39</b>
Don't know	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

**Q10: Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Bush is handling the terrorist attack and its aftermath? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) somewhat?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	<b>86</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>95</b>
Approve strongly	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>87</b>
Approve somewhat	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>
Disapprove (Net)	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>
Disapprove somewhat	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>
Disapprove strongly	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>

QUESTION 10: FOR COMPARISON \*

	4/95
Approve (Net)	<b>84</b>
Approve strongly	<b>56</b>
Approve somewhat	<b>28</b>
Disapprove (Net)	<b>9</b>
Disapprove somewhat	<b>3</b>
Disapprove strongly	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

\* In this April 1995 national survey (conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City), the question was: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Clinton is handling the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City and its aftermath?..."

**Q10A: As you may know, some top White House officials argued that President Bush should have returned to Washington, D.C., immediately after the attack on Tuesday to reassure the American people, while others urged him to follow the advice of the Secret Service to stay away from Washington and possible danger. What do you think? Should Bush have returned to Washington, D.C., immediately after the attack or was it appropriate for him to follow the advice of the Secret Service to stay away?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Return immediately	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>
Follow Secret Service's advice	<b>85</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>94</b>
Don't know	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

**Q11: In your opinion, is the United States now in a state of war, or not?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>74</b>
No	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>

**Q12: As you may know, in the aftermath of the attack on Tuesday, stock markets around the world declined. Do you think the decline in the stock markets will have a long-term negative effect on the world's economy, including that of the United States, or do you think this a temporary setback and the economy will stabilize?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Long-term effect	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>
Temporary setback	<b>73</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>79</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>

**Q13: How much—if any—has the attack on the World Trade Center buildings and the Pentagon shaken your own personal sense of safety and security? Has it shaken it a great deal, a good amount, not too much or not at all?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Great deal/Good amount (Net)	<b>63</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58</b>
Great deal	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
A good amount	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>
Not much/Not at all (Net)	<b>36</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>
Not too much	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>
Not at all	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Don't know	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Q14: Do you personally worry about terrorism when you are in public places? (IF YES) Is this the result of the recent attack or did you feel this way before?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes, worry (Net)	<u>35</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>34</u>
Result of recent attack	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>23</u>
Felt this way before	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>
No, don't worry	<u>64</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

— TREND FOR QUESTION 14 \* —

4/95

Yes, worry	<u>35</u>
No, don't worry	<u>64</u>
Don't know	<u>1</u>

\* In this April 1995 national survey (conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City), the follow-up question ("Is this the result of the recent attack...?") was not asked.

**Q15: In the future, do you expect attempts at terrorist acts like the ones we just experienced in New York and Washington, D.C., will be very common, somewhat common, not too common or not at all common in this country?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Common (Net)	<u>39</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>35</u>
Very common	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
Somewhat common	<u>31</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>28</u>
Not common (Net)	<u>53</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>59</u>
Not too common	<u>39</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>44</u>
Not at all common	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

— QUESTION 15: FOR COMPARISON \* —

4/95

Common (Net)	<u>51</u>
Very common	<u>15</u>
Somewhat common	<u>36</u>
Not common (Net)	<u>45</u>
Not too common	<u>32</u>
Not at all common	<u>13</u>
Don't know	<u>4</u>

\* In this April 1995 national survey (conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City), the question was worded: "In the future, do you expect attempts at terrorist acts like the bombing in Oklahoma City will be very common, somewhat common, not too common or not at all common in this country?"

**Q16: Do you think it is possible to prevent all future terrorist attacks here in the United States, or most of them, or only a few of them, or is it not possible to prevent attacks in the United States?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
All/Most (Net)	<u>52</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>58</u>
All	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
Most	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>52</u>
Few/None (Net)	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>40</u>
Few	<u>26</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>24</u>
None	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>

— QUESTION 16: FOR COMPARISON \* —

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All/Most (Net)	<u>39</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>40</u>
All	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
Many	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>36</u>
Few/None (Net)	<u>54</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>56</u>
Few	<u>45</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>48</u>
None	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

\* In these earlier national surveys, the question was: "If law enforcement officials are given the tools they need, do you think they will be able to prevent all future terrorist attacks here in the United States, or many of them, or only a few of them, or will they be able to prevent none of them?" The Aug. 1998 poll was conducted shortly after U.S. retaliatory strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan in response to the bombing of U.S. embassies in Africa. The Aug. 1996 poll was conducted shortly after the crash of TWA flight 800 in East Moriches, N.Y. The April 1995 poll was conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City.

**Q17: When it comes to the American intelligence agencies' ability to protect the United States, how much confidence do you have?**

**Would you say you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence or no confidence at all?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
A lot/Some (Net)	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>86</u>
A lot	<u>35</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>43</u>
Some	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>43</u>
Not much/None (Net)	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>13</u>
Not much	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>
None	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

**Q18: Some people have said that this attack represents the biggest failure by American intelligence operations since Pearl Harbor. Do you think that this attack was something that government intelligence agencies should have been able to discover in advance or not?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	<u>51</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>48</u>
No	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>40</u>
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

**Q19: How concerned are you that new measures enacted to fight terrorism in this country could end up restricting some of our civil liberties? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not concerned at all about that?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Concerned (Net)	<u>56</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>47</u>
Very concerned	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>
Somewhat concerned	<u>36</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>33</u>
Not concerned (Net)	<u>42</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>52</u>
Not too concerned	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>33</u>
Not concerned at all	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

— TREND FOR QUESTION 19 \* —

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Concerned (Net)	<u>65</u>	<u>70</u>
Very concerned	<u>29</u>	<u>31</u>
Somewhat concerned	<u>36</u>	<u>39</u>
Not concerned (Net)	<u>32</u>	<u>28</u>
Not too concerned	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
Not concerned at all	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

\* The Aug. 1996 national survey was conducted shortly after the crash of TWA flight 800 in East Moriches, N.Y. The April 1995 national survey was conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City.

**Q20: In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it will be necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Necessary	<u>61</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>66</u>
Not necessary	<u>33</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>30</u>
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

— TREND FOR QUESTION 20 \* —

4/95

Necessary	<u>49</u>
Not necessary	<u>43</u>
Don't know	<u>8</u>

\* This April 1995 national survey was conducted shortly after the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City.

**Q21: Some people say that in order to fight terrorism, government agencies should be given broader powers to tap telephone lines and monitor cell phones and other wireless communications. Would you approve or disapprove of such a move? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Would you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) only somewhat?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	<u>54</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>60</u>
Approve strongly	<u>27</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>34</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>26</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>40</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>36</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>22</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>16</u>
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>

**Q22:** Some people say that in order to fight terrorism, government agencies should be given broader powers to monitor Internet communications and be given the legal authority to read all private e-mails. Would you approve or disapprove of such a move? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Would you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) only somewhat?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	50	50	50	50	48	51
Approve strongly	26	26	26	26	24	28
Approve somewhat	24	24	24	24	24	23
Disapprove (Net)	45	46	43	46	46	45
Disapprove somewhat	20	20	20	19	18	25
Disapprove strongly	25	26	23	27	28	20
Don't know	5	4	7	4	6	4

**Q23:** Some people say that in order to fight terrorism, law enforcement should be allowed to randomly stop people who may fit the profile of suspected terrorists. Would you approve or disapprove of such a move? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Would you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) only somewhat?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	68	63	72	64	71	75
Approve strongly	41	40	42	38	43	48
Approve somewhat	27	24	30	26	28	27
Disapprove (Net)	29	34	24	34	27	22
Disapprove somewhat	12	13	10	13	11	12
Disapprove strongly	17	21	14	21	16	10
Don't know	3	3	4	2	2	3

**Turning your attention now to airport security...**

**Q24:** In your opinion, do you feel that United States airports are doing enough to secure the safety of passengers or are they doing too little?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Enough	14	13	14	12	10	12
Too little	82	83	82	84	85	85
Don't know	4	4	4	4	5	3

**Q25:** Have you cancelled or postponed any plans to travel by plane in the United States or abroad due to the terrorist attack this past Tuesday, or not? (ACCEPTED "DID NOT HAVE PLANS" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Didn't cancel/postpone	64	67	62	64	56	70
Cancelled/Postponed	10	9	11	11	11	8
Didn't have plans	25	24	26	24	31	22
Don't know	1	-	1	1	2	-

**Q26:** As you may know, transportation, airline and airport officials have taken measures to tighten airport security in the United States due to the terrorist attack last Tuesday. Some of the procedures are thorough searches of all planes and airports; no curbside check-ins or check-in from hotels; allowing only passengers to pass through security checkpoints; a ban on all knives; uniformed police patrols of airports; no more use of electronic tickets; checks of passengers using hand-held metal detectors; and armed marshals aboard airplanes. These measures may result in longer check-in times. Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of these security measures? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Would you (approve/disapprove) strongly or (approve/disapprove) only somewhat?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Approve (Net)	95	93	97	95	96	98
Approve strongly	83	81	85	85	80	87
Approve somewhat	12	12	12	10	16	11
Disapprove (Net)	4	5	2	3	4	2
Disapprove somewhat	2	3	1	2	3	1
Disapprove strongly	2	2	1	1	1	1
Don't know	1	2	1	2	-	-

**Q27:** Will having more airport security procedures help you feel safer about flying or will you feel less safe, or won't it make a difference to your feeling of safety one way or another? (IF SAFER) Will that make you feel much safer or only somewhat safer?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Safer (Net)	74	72	76	77	74	77
Much safer	51	50	53	52	54	54
Somewhat safer	23	22	23	25	20	24
Less safe	2	2	2	1	3	3
No difference	23	25	20	21	21	19
Don't know	1	1	2	1	2	1

**Q28:** As you may know, Senator McCain and others have alleged that the country's intelligence operations have become less effective over the past decade. They say this is the result of fewer covert operations abroad and lack of expertise to analyze intelligence data here in the United States. Do you think support of American intelligence operations should be a higher national budget priority than it is now, a lower budget priority or is it about the right level of priority now?

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Higher	71	75	68	70	73	75
Lower	2	2	3	4	1	-
Right level	19	17	20	17	20	19
Don't know	8	6	9	9	6	6

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO SAID HIGHER PRIORITY)

**Q29:** Would you support funding intelligence operations at a higher level even if that means higher taxes for all Americans, or not?

(ACCEPTED "DEPENDS" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	85	85	85	84	79	90
No	9	10	9	9	17	6
Depends	3	3	3	4	2	2
Don't know	3	2	3	3	2	2

**Q30:** Would you support funding intelligence operations at a higher level even if that means reduced government benefits, such as health care, farm aid or dipping into the Social Security fund, or not?

(ACCEPTED "DEPENDS" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	36	40	32	29	34	46
No	52	49	55	62	55	40
Depends	6	7	5	2	6	8
Don't know	6	4	8	7	5	6

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

**Q31:** Which statement comes closer to your view: "The United States has a responsibility to fight violations of international law and aggression around the world even without the cooperation of its allies," or "The United States should work only in a coordinated effort with its allies to fight violations of international law and aggression around the world"? (ACCEPTED "U.S. SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED AT ALL" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE) (STATEMENTS ROTATED)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Fight alone	34	39	29	36	27	35
Fight with allies	59	56	61	56	66	60
Shouldn't be involved at all	1	1	2	2	1	1
Don't know	6	4	8	6	6	4

**Q32:** Do you think the terrorist attack last Tuesday was a direct result of United States' policy of intervention around the world or not? (ACCEPTED "U.S. POLICY PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	47	47	47	53	42	44
No	36	37	36	31	41	39
Partially responsible	6	7	5	6	8	6
Don't know	11	9	12	10	9	11

**Q33:** Specifically, do you think the terrorist attack last Tuesday was a direct result of United States' policy in the Middle East or not?

(ACCEPTED "U.S. POLICY PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	58	58	57	61	56	60
No	23	27	21	19	28	25
Partially responsible	7	7	7	7	7	7
Don't know	12	8	15	13	9	8

**Q34: From what you know about the situation in the Middle East, do your sympathies lie more with Israel or more with the Palestinians?** (ACCEPTED "HAVEN'T HEARD ENOUGH" OR "NEITHER" AS VOLUNTEERED RESPONSES)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Israel	51	56	48	48	47	64
Palestinians	8	7	8	10	8	6
Neither	24	25	22	27	24	18
Haven't heard enough	1	-	2	2	2	1
Don't know	16	12	20	13	19	11

— TREND FOR QUESTION 34 —

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Israel	48
Palestinians	14
Neither	10
Haven't heard enough	11
Don't know	17

**Q35: Did the terrorist attack on the United States change your sympathies in the Middle East, or not?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	20	16	23	20	22	17
No	73	78	68	72	72	79
Don't know	7	6	9	8	6	4

As you may know, the United States is saying that it is fairly certain that Osama bin Laden was responsible for the attack on the World Trade Center buildings and the Pentagon last Tuesday. Bin Laden is an exiled Saudi militant with extreme anti-American views who is allegedly being protected by the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

**Q36: If it is determined that Osama bin Laden was responsible for the terrorist attack, do you think he and his organization will be caught and brought to justice or not?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	70	70	70	65	68	81
No	19	18	19	22	21	12
Don't know	11	12	11	13	11	7

**Q37: If it is also determined that the Taliban ruling party in Afghanistan is harboring Osama bin Laden, would you support the United States and its allies retaliating with military action against Afghanistan, even if it could result in civilian casualties, or would you oppose that? (IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE) Would you (support/oppose) that strongly, or (support/oppose) it somewhat?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Support (Net)	82	89	75	80	78	91
Support strongly	67	78	58	64	67	76
Support somewhat	14	11	17	16	11	14
Oppose (Net)	11	7	15	13	13	6
Oppose somewhat	6	4	7	7	6	3
Oppose strongly	6	3	8	6	7	3
Don't know	7	4	10	7	9	3

**Q38: What about Osama bin Laden's organization itself? Do you think the United States should retaliate against Bin Laden's group through military action, or should the United States pursue justice by bringing him to trial in the United States?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Military action	69	74	65	66	64	80
Bring him to trial	25	22	27	28	27	17
Don't know	6	4	8	6	9	3

Now turning to the subject of safety...

**Q39: Thinking about the day of the attack and how it affected your life: Would you say your daily routine was extremely disrupted, or somewhat disrupted, or not disrupted at all?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Not disrupted	14	17	11	11	17	17
Disrupted (Net)	86	83	88	89	82	83
Extremely	50	42	56	51	50	49
Somewhat	36	41	32	38	32	34
Don't know	-	-	1	-	1	-

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO SAID EXTREMELY/SOMEWHAT DISRUPTED)

**Q40: You said that your daily routine was [answer to Q39]. How was it disrupted? Anything else?** (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Very emotional/Distraught	40	34	46	41	46	38
Watched news all day	37	38	37	36	36	43
Cancelled all daily plans	14	13	15	16	14	11
Couldn't go to work	12	15	9	13	8	10
Changed travel plans	5	6	4	5	4	4
Children frightened	5	2	8	5	7	3
Had trouble sleeping	4	4	4	5	2	3
Concerned about family/friends	4	4	3	3	4	5
Business interrupted	4	6	2	2	7	5
Kept children home	3	2	4	3	6	1
Terrified/Felt unsafe	3	2	3	3	2	2
Stranded away from home	2	3	1	4	1	1
Someone I know was injured	1	1	2	2	-	1
Someone I know was killed	1	1	2	1	-	1
Placed on stand-by alert	1	1	-	-	-	1
Workload increased	1	-	2	2	-	1
Reflected on victims	1	1	1	-	-	2
Reviewed safety procedures	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other	5	5	5	3	9	7
Don't know	1	3	-	2	-	1

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

**Q41: Now that it has been a few days after the terrorist attack in New York and Washington, D.C., what one word best describes how you are feeling about the situation?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Anger/Frustration	26	35	19	24	20	32
Sorrow/Sadness	21	15	26	24	20	18
Devastated/Horrified	11	9	13	13	10	10
Shocked/Stunned/Numbed	9	9	9	9	10	12
Fear/Anxiety	7	4	10	7	11	6
Bad feelings in general	6	7	5	6	6	3
Surreal/Disbelief	4	4	3	4	3	4
Concerned (about victims)	3	2	3	2	4	2
Violated	1	-	1	1	-	-
Sick	1	1	1	1	-	2
Vengeful/Retaliate	1	-	1	1	1	-
Patriotic	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other	5	6	4	3	11	6
Can't think of one word	4	5	4	5	4	1
Don't know	1	2	1	-	-	3

**Q42: In light of Tuesday's attack, should the United States toughen restrictions on visas for foreign students and other visitors to the United States?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Yes	84	82	85	82	82	85
No	12	15	10	14	13	12
Don't know	4	3	5	4	5	3

Now, turning your attention to another subject...

**Q43: Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as very secure, fairly secure, fairly shaky or very shaky?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Secure (Net)	76	77	76	72	74	83
Very secure	19	21	18	18	20	20
Fairly secure	57	56	57	54	54	64
Shaky (Net)	22	21	22	27	23	14
Fairly shaky	15	15	15	18	17	8
Very shaky	7	6	7	9	6	5
Don't know	2	2	2	1	3	3

— TREND FOR QUESTION 43 —

	3/01 <sup>b</sup> ALL	9/00 RV	8/00 RV	7/00 RV	5/00 ALL	11/99 ALL	1/99 ALL
Secure (Net)	68	77	79	80	72	70	74
Very secure	13	16	22	18	15	16	15
Fairly secure	55	61	57	62	57	54	59
Shaky (Net)	30	22	19	19	27	28	24
Fairly shaky	18	14	13	13	17	19	16
Very shaky	12	8	6	6	10	9	8
Don't know	2	1	2	1	1	2	2

[Trend for Question 43 continues on next page.]

## HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

This Los Angeles Times poll is the 462nd in a series of opinion studies designed to measure public attitudes on a number of issues. This survey focuses on the recent terrorist attacks upon the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon outside of Washington, D.C.

The sampling frame for this survey is all telephone residences in the nation. One thousand five hundred sixty-one men and women 18 years of age or older were contacted by telephone September 13–14, 2001.

Results are adjusted to conform with census figures on characteristics such as sex, race, age, education and region. Telephone numbers were generated from a computer list that includes all possible telephone exchanges in the nation. Random-digit dialing techniques were used to ensure that both listed and unlisted residences had an opportunity to be contacted.

Readers are reminded that, since survey research normally questions only a small proportion of the population, one must allow a certain margin for error. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points for the entire sample. For certain other subgroups, the error margin is somewhat higher.

Surveys of this kind are sometimes subject to different kinds of inaccuracies for which precise estimates cannot be calculated and which may, in some cases, be even larger than the effects associated with sampling procedures. For example, findings may be influenced by events which take place while the survey is in the field and, of course, events occurring since the time the interviews were conducted could have changed the opinions reported here. Undetected flaws in the way the sampling and interviewing procedure were carried out could have a significant effect on the findings. Changing the wording of questions and the sequence in which they are asked can produce different results. Sometimes questions are inadvertently biased or misleading. People who responded to the survey may not necessarily replicate the views of those who refused to be interviewed or who could not be found at home during the time the survey was conducted. Moreover, while every precaution has been taken to make these findings completely accurate, other errors may have resulted from the various practical difficulties associated with taking any survey of public opinion.

The Los Angeles Times Poll is directed by Susan Pinkus under the general supervision of Dean Baquet, managing editor. Jill Darling Richardson is the associate director, Roger Richardson is the field director, Claudia Vaughn is the data management supervisor, Ray Enslow is the publications coordinator and Patricia De La Cruz is the secretary/researcher.

Further information regarding this study is available by writing to the Los Angeles Times Poll, 202 West 1st Street, Los Angeles, California 90012; by calling (213) 237-2027; or by sending e-mail to [timespoll@latimes.com](mailto:timespoll@latimes.com).

In addition, poll data can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.latimes.com/timespoll>.

This report conforms to the standards of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls and the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

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	9/97 <sup>a</sup> ALL	10/96 <sup>c</sup> ALL	9/96 <sup>a</sup> ALL	8/96 ALL	4/96 ALL	10/95 <sup>c</sup> ALL	3/95 <sup>b</sup> ALL	1/95 <sup>c</sup> ALL
Secure (Net)	<b>66</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>
Very secure	14	13	14	13	13	11	13	12
Fairly secure	51	55	54	54	54	54	54	55
Shaky (Net)	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>
Fairly shaky	19	18	21	18	21	20	19	21
Very shaky	14	12	11	14	11	13	12	11
Don't know	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1

  

	10/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	7/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	4/94 <sup>b</sup> ALL	1/94 <sup>a</sup> ALL	12/93 ALL	9/93 <sup>b</sup> ALL	6/93 ALL	2/93 <sup>c</sup> ALL
Secure (Net)	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>62</b>
Very secure	12	14	10	11	10	11	10	9
Fairly secure	57	49	51	50	50	52	50	52
Shaky (Net)	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>
Fairly shaky	16	23	24	23	23	19	23	23
Very shaky	13	12	14	15	16	17	16	14
Don't know	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

  

	1/93 ALL	7/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	3/92 <sup>b</sup> ALL	2/92 <sup>a</sup> ALL	11/91 ALL	9/91 ALL	6/91 ALL	4/91 <sup>b</sup> ALL
Secure (Net)	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>68</b>
Very secure	9	13	13	13	11	11	11	13
Fairly secure	48	51	54	49	52	54	53	55
Shaky (Net)	<b>42</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>
Fairly shaky	24	21	19	22	22	22	21	20
Very shaky	18	13	12	15	14	11	14	11
Don't know	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1

**Q44: Compared to last year, would you say that this holiday season you will spend more, less or about the same on presents for friends and family?** (ACCEPTED "DON'T CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS/GIVE PRESENTS" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
More	11	12	11	15	8	10
Less	26	24	28	29	28	21
Same	59	61	57	52	60	67
Don't give presents	1	1	1	1	1	—
Don't know	3	2	3	3	3	2

(ASKED OF THOSE WHO SAID THEY WILL SPEND LESS)

**Q45: Why do you think you will be spending less money on presents during the holiday season?**

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Being frugal	17	16	18	15	14	23
Earning less money this year	13	14	12	15	15	13
We're in/going into recession	11	11	10	9	8	10
Higher prices	10	11	9	12	7	1
Debt	6	6	5	6	7	4
Lost my job	5	7	3	6	6	2
Recent terrorist attacks	5	8	3	4	8	5
We decided not to exchange presents this year	4	5	3	6	1	5
Overspent last year	4	4	5	4	—	4
Retired now, have less money	4	2	5	3	9	3
Uncertain about future	4	3	5	5	2	8
Stock market decline	3	5	1	3	3	3
Fewer people to buy for	2	1	4	4	1	2
De-emphasize materialism	2	1	3	—	4	2
Children older	1	1	1	1	2	3
Less family	1	1	1	—	1	3
Divorced this year	—	—	—	1	—	—
Going to school	—	—	1	1	—	1
Need funds to remodel	—	—	—	—	—	1
Spending on self	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other	3	1	5	1	3	2
No particular reason	5	2	6	4	7	5
Don't know	—	1	—	—	1	—

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

**Q46: Have you lost your job or been laid off within the last six months, or not? (IF NOT) Are you concerned about losing your job or being laid off within the next six months because of economic conditions, or not?** (ACCEPTED "DON'T HAVE A JOB" AS A VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE)

	ALL	MEN	WOM	DEM	IND	REP
Lost job in last 6 months	8	9	6	11	5	6
Concerned, next 6 months	5	6	4	5	5	6
Not concerned	59	61	58	54	58	63
Don't have a job	26	21	30	27	30	25
Don't know	2	3	2	3	2	—

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