



THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER
For The People & The Press

NEWS Release
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel (202) 419-4350
Fax (202) 419-4399

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2007, 2:00 PM

Views of Press Values and Performance: 1985-2007

INTERNET NEWS AUDIENCE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF NEWS ORGANIZATIONS

Also inside...

- Public faults press for inaccuracy, bias
- But supports political watchdog role
- Positive views of cable networks decline
- On Iraq, Reps trust military, Dems trust press

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
Pew Research Center for the People & the Press
202/419-4350
<http://www.people-press.org>

Views of Press Values and Performance: 1985-2007

INTERNET NEWS AUDIENCE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF NEWS ORGANIZATIONS

The American public continues to fault news organizations for a number of perceived failures, with solid majorities criticizing them for political bias, inaccuracy and failing to acknowledge mistakes. But some of the harshest indictments of the press now come from the growing segment that relies on the internet as its main source for national and international news.

The internet news audience – roughly a quarter of all Americans – tends to be younger and better educated than the public as a whole. People who rely on the internet as their main news source express relatively unfavorable opinions of mainstream news sources and are among the most critical of press performance. As many as 38% of those who rely mostly on the internet for news say they have an unfavorable opinion of cable news networks such as CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC, compared with 25% of the public overall, and just 17% of television news viewers.

The internet news audience is particularly likely to criticize news organizations for their lack of empathy, their failure to “stand up for America,” and political bias. Roughly two-thirds (68%) of those who get most of their news from the internet say that news organizations do not care about the people they report on, and 53% believe that news organizations are too critical of America. By comparison, smaller percentages of the general public fault the press for not caring about people they report on (53%), and being too critical of America (43%).

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press,

Internet Audience Less Favorable...				
<i>Opinion of...*</i>	<u>Total</u> %	<i>Main news source</i>		
		<u>TV</u> %	<u>papers</u> %	<u>net</u> %
Local TV news				
Favorable	78	84	78	68
Unfavorable	<u>22</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>32</u>
	100	100	100	100
Cable TV News				
Favorable	75	83	73	62
Unfavorable	25	17	27	38
Network TV news				
Favorable	71	76	69	61
Unfavorable	29	24	31	39
Daily newspaper**				
Favorable	78	80	82	71
Unfavorable	22	20	18	29
National papers				
Favorable	60	62	63	60
Unfavorable	40	38	37	40
And More Critical of News Organizations				
<i>News organizations...</i>				
Politically biased	55	46	55	64
Careful to avoid bias	31	38	32	29
Neither/DK	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
Stories often inaccurate	53	49	57	59
Get the facts straight	39	44	38	31
Neither/DK	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100
Care about the people they report on	35	40	31	20
Don't care	53	48	57	68
Neither/DK	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100
Too critical of America	43	38	42	53
Stand up for America	41	48	40	31
Neither/DK	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100	100

* Favorability ratings based on those who can rate each.

** The daily newspaper you are most familiar with.

conducted July 25-29 among 1,503 adults, finds a continuing pattern of deep partisan differences in public views of news organizations and their performance. Far more than twice as many Republicans as Democrats say news organizations are too critical of America (63% vs. 23%), and there is virtually no measure of press values or performance on which there is not a substantial gap in the views of partisans.

More broadly, the new survey underscores the fundamental change in basic attitudes about the news media that has occurred since the mid-1980s. In the initial Times Mirror polling on the press in 1985, the public faulted news organizations for many of its practices: most people said that news organizations “try to cover up their mistakes,” while pluralities said they “don’t care about the people they report on,” and were politically biased.

But in the past decade, these criticisms have

	July 1985	Feb 1999	Sept 2001	Nov 2001	July 2002	July 2003	June 2005	July 2007
<i>News organizations ...</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Moral	54	40	40	53	39	45	43	46
Immoral	13	38	34	23	36	32	35	32
Neither/Don't know	<u>33</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Protect democracy	54	45	46	60	50	52	47	44
Hurt democracy	23	38	32	19	29	28	33	36
Neither/Don't know	<u>23</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Get the facts straight	55	37	35	46	35	36	36	39
Stories often inaccurate	34	58	57	45	56	56	56	53
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Careful to avoid bias	36	31	26	35	26	29	28	31
Politically biased	45	56	59	47	59	53	60	55
Neither/Don't know	<u>19</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Highly professional	72	52	54	73	49	62	59	66
Not professional	11	32	27	12	31	24	25	22
Neither/Don't know	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

come to encompass broader indictments of the accuracy of news reporting, news organizations’ impact on democracy and, to some degree, their morality. In 1985, most Americans (55%) said news organizations get the facts straight. Since the late 1990s, consistent majorities – including 53% in the current survey – have expressed the belief that news stories are often inaccurate. As a consequence, the believability ratings for individual news organizations are lower today than they were in the 1980s and 1990s. (See “Online Papers Modestly Boost Newspaper Readership,” July 30, 2006.)

Yet for all of the public’s gripes about the press, people also say they like various news sources – local TV news, network news, cable TV news and the daily newspapers they are most familiar with. Though the numbers have declined in recent years, Americans continue to have more positive than negative impressions of these news organizations, and rate them far higher than most political institutions, including Congress, the Supreme Court and the political parties.

One factor behind this may be the public’s broad and continuing support for the news media’s role as political watchdog. Currently, 58% say that by criticizing political leaders, news organizations keep political leaders from doing things that should not be done, while just 27% say such scrutiny keeps political leaders from doing their jobs.

In addition, the public gives news organizations high marks for professionalism and caring about how good a job they do. Two-thirds (66%) view news organizations as highly professional – rather than not professional – up from 59% two years ago and a low of 49% in 2002.

Falling Favorability

The overall image of the cable news networks as a group has fallen significantly since the beginning of the decade. In the summer of 2001, favorable ratings for cable news networks outnumbered unfavorable by 88% to 12%, based on those who could rate them. Currently, 75% express a favorable opinion of cable news networks, such as CNN, Fox and MSNBC.

The ratings for Fox and CNN, individually, are comparable to those for cable news networks collectively; 75% of those able to rate Fox have a favorable impression of the network, while 72% say the same about CNN. Positive views of CNN have fallen substantially over the past two decades. In 1987, fully 91% of those able to rate CNN offered a favorable assessment and positive ratings were about as high in 1992 (95%). Today, just 72% of those who rate CNN individually say the same.

Ratings of large nationally influential newspapers such as the New York Times and the Washington Post also have dropped in recent years. Just six-in-ten Americans who offer a view of major national newspapers give a favorable assessment. This is virtually unchanged from 2005, and down 14 points from 2001. Local news outlets – local TV and papers that respondents are most familiar with – retain the highest favorability ratings among those who can rate them.

<i>Favorable opinion of...</i>	1985	1992	1997	2001	2005	2007	01-07 change
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Local TV news	89	91**	84	83	79	79	-4
Daily newspaper	88	81	79	82	80	78	-4
Cable TV news ¹	91*	95	86***	88	79	75	-13
Network TV news	89	86	76	76	75	71	-5
Major national papers	81	81	67	74	61	60	-14
The military	81	96**	83	88	90	84	-4
Supreme Court	70	77**	77	78	66	66	-12
Democratic Party	--	65	63	63	57	55	-8
Congress	72	54**	55	65	54	45	-20
Republican Party	--	49	55	54	52	42	-12

* 1987 **1991 ***1998

¹ In 1987 and 1992 the question asked only about CNN. In 1998 and 2001, the cable news question listed CNN and MSNBC as examples. In 2005 and 2007 the Fox News Channel was included in the list of examples.

Percentages based on those who could rate each.

Meanwhile, ratings of other political institutions have been falling at a comparable rate. The share giving a favorable rating to the Supreme Court stands at 66% today, down from 78% in 2001, while fewer than half (45%) give a favorable rating to Congress, down from 65% in 2001. As a result, news organizations continue to be seen more favorably by the American public than most governmental institutions, despite their declining ratings.

Growing Partisan Divides

Across every major news source, Democrats offer more favorable assessments than do independents or Republicans. The partisan divide is smallest when it comes to local TV news, which 83% of Democrats rate favorably along with 76% of Republicans. The differences are greatest for major national newspapers, such as the New York Times and Washington Post. Fully 79% of Democrats rate these newspapers favorably compared with just 41% of Republicans, based on those able to rate them.

While Republicans have long been more skeptical than Democrats about major media sources, the magnitude of the difference is a relatively recent phenomenon. In Pew's first measure of media favorability in 1985, there were modest differences of opinion across party lines.

Both Democrats and Republicans held overwhelmingly favorable views of network TV news (92% of Democrats who gave a rating, 88% of Republicans), the daily newspaper people read most often (89% of both Democrats and Republicans rated favorably), and large national newspapers like the New York Times and Washington Post (85% of Democrats, 79% of Republicans).

<i>Favorable opinion of...*</i>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2007</u>
Network TV news	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	92	89	85	82	87	84
Independents	88	85	74	75	72	70
Republicans	88	83	70	69	64	56
<i>R-D gap</i>	-4	-6	-15	-13	-23	-28
Daily newspaper						
Democrats	89	87	84	84	85	86
Independents	86	78	78	81	80	79
Republicans	89	81	75	79	73	68
<i>R-D gap</i>	0	-6	-9	-5	-12	-18
National newspapers						
Democrats	85	87	72	86	78	79
Independents	80	79	67	75	62	60
Republicans	79	80	63	61	43	41
<i>R-D gap</i>	-6	-7	-9	-25	-35	-38

*Percentages based on those who could rate each.

In the current survey, however, fewer than half of Republicans (41%) express a favorable opinion of major national newspapers, a 38-point decline when compared with 1985. Independents also regard major newspapers far less favorably. Currently, 60% of independents able to rate these newspapers have a positive impression of them; in 1985, 80% of independents viewed them favorably. By contrast, Democrats view major national papers nearly as favorably now as in 1985 (79% now, 85% then).

A similar pattern is evident in opinions of network TV news outlets. Just 56% of Republicans express favorable opinions of network television news, more than 30 points lower when compared with the 1985 survey (88%). Independents also express less positive opinions of the three major broadcast news operations (70% today, 88% in 1985). But opinions among Democrats of these outlets remain overwhelmingly positive. Currently 84% of Democrats able to rate the network news outlets express favorable opinions of them, compared with 92% in 1985.

Women, Blacks offer more Favorable Assessments

In the current survey, women offer a more favorable assessment of every type of news organization than do men. The widest gender gap is seen in evaluations of cable news networks, which 83% of women rate favorable compared with 67% of men. African Americans also rate most news organizations substantially higher than do whites, while college graduates tend to offer more critical views than do people with less education.

And though younger Americans devote considerably less time to newspapers and television news, it apparently is not due to any greater dissatisfaction with the media themselves. Americans ages 18-29 rate newspapers at least as favorably as do their elders, and people in all age groups offer about the same assessments of network, local and cable television news. When it comes to large national newspapers, younger Americans who offer an opinion are among the most likely to give a favorable assessment, while Americans age 65 and older are among the most negative.

<i>Percent favorable</i>	-----Television-----			--Newspapers--	
	Network news %	Local news %	Cable networks %	Large, national papers %	Paper you know best %
Total	71	79	75	60	78
Men	63	73	67	54	75
Women	77	84	83	67	80
White	68	78	73	57	75
Black	86	83	84	75	90
18-29	74	76	73	70	81
30-49	73	79	75	61	79
50-64	66	78	76	54	74
65+	68	82	78	50	77
College grad	58	70	63	58	73
Some college	69	76	81	66	74
HS or less	78	84	80	59	82

Percentages based on those who could rate each news medium.

Fox Viewers More Critical

Generally, the press receives its most positive ratings for its performance from people who rely on television as their main source of news, with those who rely on newspapers – and especially the internet – expressing more critical opinions.

However, those who cite the Fox News Channel as their primary source of news stand out among the TV news audience for their negative evaluations of news organizations' practices. Fully 63% of Americans who count Fox as their main news source say news stories are often inaccurate – a view held by fewer than half of those who cite CNN (46%) or network news (41%) as their main source.

Similarly, Fox viewers are far more likely to say the press is too critical of America (52% vs. 36% of CNN viewers and 29% of network news viewers). And the Fox News Channel audience gives starkly lower ratings to network news programs and national newspapers such as the New York Times and Washington Post.

Politics plays a large part in these assessments – Republicans outnumber Democrats by two-to-one (43% to 21%) among the core Fox News Channel audience, while there are far more Democrats than Republicans among CNN's viewers (43% Democrat, 22% Republican) and network news viewers (41% Democrat, 24% Republican). Not surprisingly, the Fox News Channel audience is far more likely to say that news organizations have been unfair in their coverage of George W. Bush (49%) than those who cite CNN (19%) or network news (22%) as their main news source.

Further analysis of the data shows that being a

	<i>Main source of news</i>		
	<u>Net-</u> <u>works</u> %	<u>CNN</u> %	<u>Fox</u> <u>News</u> %
Stand up for America	56	51	40
Too critical of America	29	36	52
Neither/DK	15	13	8
	100	100	100
<i>Coverage of Bush</i>			
Fair	68	70	45
Unfair	22	19	49
Don't know	10	11	6
	100	100	100
Politically biased	42	46	54
Careful to avoid bias	44	42	30
Neither/DK	14	12	16
	100	100	100
Get the facts straight	53	47	33
Stories often inaccurate	41	46	63
Neither/DK	6	7	4
	100	100	100
<i>Favorable opinion of...*</i>			
Local TV news	86	84	81
Network TV news	87	80	59
Cable TV News	82	88	85
Daily newspaper	83	79	72
National papers	69	73	39

*Based on those who can rate.

<i>Unfavorable view of...</i>	All <u>Reps</u> %	<i>Fox is main source</i>	
		<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %
Network news	44	56	39
Daily newspaper*	32	40	28
National newspapers	58	71	52
<i>Views of news organizations</i>			
They hurt democracy	48	57	44
Too critical of America	63	71	61
Cover up their mistakes	72	81	69
Are often influenced by powerful people & orgs	75	82	72
Percent of Republicans	100%	28%	72%

Republican *and* a Fox viewer are related to negative opinions of the mainstream media. The overlapping impact of these two factors can most clearly be seen in the favorability ratings of network TV news, major national newspapers, and the daily newspapers that respondents are most familiar with. For all three, Republicans who count Fox as their main news source are considerably more critical than Republicans who rely on other sources. For example, fully 71% of Fox News Republicans hold an unfavorable opinion of major national newspapers, compared with 52% of Republicans who use other sources, and 33% of those who are not Republicans.

CNN and Fox: Assessing the Alternatives

More than nine-in-ten people who count on CNN for most of their news rate that network favorably (91%), and the same is true among those who rely on Fox (93% rate the Fox News Channel favorably). But when it comes to evaluations of leading cable alternatives (views of Fox among CNN viewers, and CNN among Fox viewers), there is a stark imbalance.

CNN viewers feel much more favorably toward the Fox News Channel than Fox News viewers feel about CNN. Fully 79% of CNN viewers rate Fox favorably, while just 55% of Fox viewers say the same about CNN – 45% express an unfavorable view of Fox’s major competitor.

Dislike of both major cable news networks runs notably high among

Americans who count newspapers and the internet as their main sources of national and international news. One-third of people who count on the internet for most of their news express an unfavorable view of Fox, and roughly the same number (31%) feel negatively toward CNN.

For a large share of Americans, however, there are really no substantial differences between the cable news networks. Of the people who offer an opinion of both CNN and Fox, 56% feel favorably toward both, and 10% feel unfavorably toward both. Only a minority likes Fox but not CNN (19%), or likes CNN but not Fox (15%). Not surprisingly, these polarized views are most prevalent at the ideological extremes – conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats.

<i>Opinion of...</i>	<u>Total</u> %	----- <i>Main source of news</i> -----				
		<u>CNN</u> %	<u>News</u> %	<u>works</u> %	<u>papers</u> %	<u>net</u> %
CNN						
Favorable	72	91	55	84	69	69
Unfavorable	28	9	45	16	31	31
Fox News Channel						
Favorable	75	79	93	81	70	67
Unfavorable	25	21	7	19	30	33
Min number of cases	596	105	111	130	182	157
Based on those who can rate each.						

Press Values and Performance: 1985-2007

Two decades ago, public attitudes about how news organizations do their job were less negative, and far less partisan. Most people believed that news organizations stood up for America, rather than were too critical of America, and that they helped rather than hurt democracy. In terms of how the press covered stories, a majority believed that news organizations get the facts straight.

As with overall impressions of the news organizations themselves, there were only modest partisan differences in opinions regarding press values and performance. Republicans were only somewhat more likely than Democrats to say that the press was too critical of America or that news organizations hurt democracy rather than helped it. This also was the case for evaluations of the accuracy of news reporting and opinions of whether news organizations were politically biased.

By the late 1990s, negative opinions of the press had increased markedly across the political spectrum. In 1999, solid majorities of Republicans (59%), Democrats (57%) and independents (57%) said that news stories were often inaccurate. In 1985, fewer than four-in-ten in each group expressed this view.

Press Too Critical of America?								
	1985	1987	1999	2001	2002	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	30	35	42	36	35	33	40	43
Republicans	34	43	43	40	42	47	67	63
Democrats	25	28	41	30	26	32	24	23
Independents	32	35	41	36	39	25	33	45
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>+9</i>	<i>+15</i>	<i>+2</i>	<i>+10</i>	<i>+16</i>	<i>+15</i>	<i>+43</i>	<i>+40</i>
Press Hurts Democracy?								
	1985	1987	1999	2001	2002	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	23	27	38	32	29	28	33	36
Republicans	26	34	39	35	36	31	43	48
Democrats	20	23	36	31	28	25	27	28
Independents	23	26	37	30	22	30	33	33
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>+6</i>	<i>+11</i>	<i>+3</i>	<i>+4</i>	<i>+8</i>	<i>+6</i>	<i>+16</i>	<i>+20</i>
Stories Often Inaccurate?								
	1985	1988	1999	2001	2002	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	34	43	58	57	56	56	56	53
Republicans	37	46	59	57	60	60	68	63
Democrats	32	45	57	55	50	51	47	43
Independents	35	38	57	59	56	55	53	56
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>+5</i>	<i>+1</i>	<i>+2</i>	<i>+2</i>	<i>+10</i>	<i>+9</i>	<i>+21</i>	<i>+20</i>
Politically Biased in Their Reporting?								
	1985	1987	1999	2001	2002	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	45	47	56	59	59	53	60	55
Republicans	49	55	69	68	69	62	73	70
Democrats	43	42	51	55	57	44	53	39
Independents	44	47	53	57	56	55	59	61
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>+6</i>	<i>+13</i>	<i>+18</i>	<i>+13</i>	<i>+12</i>	<i>+18</i>	<i>+20</i>	<i>+31</i>
Liberal?								
	1985	1987	1999	2001	2002	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	41	54	--	--	--	51	50	52
Republicans	52	61	--	--	--	65	74	75
Democrats	34	48	--	--	--	41	35	37
Independents	40	53	--	--	--	50	43	49
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>+18</i>	<i>+13</i>	--	--	--	<i>+24</i>	<i>+39</i>	<i>+38</i>

Since then, however, the partisan differences in opinions about the accuracy of news stories, as well as in other evaluations of the press, have grown. The percentage of Democrats who say that news stories are often inaccurate has declined markedly since 1999 (from 57% to 43%), while this belief has increased slightly among Republicans (from 59% then to 63% currently). The partisan gap on this measure, just two points in 1999, has ballooned to 20 points in the current survey. Over the same period, views of independents have remained more consistent – 56% say stories are often inaccurate, largely unchanged since 1999 (57%).

The pattern is somewhat different in opinions about whether the press is politically biased. In 1985, less than half of Republicans (49%), independents (44%) and Democrats (43%) said the press is politically biased. By 1999, however, the partisan gap in perceptions of news media bias had grown to 18 points with 69% of Republicans saying the press is biased. And the divide in opinion has grown even wider since. Currently, 70% of Republicans and 61% of independents say news organizations are politically biased, compared with just 39% of Democrats. The percentage of Democrats who see political bias in the news media has fallen 14 points since 2005.

Most Support Watchdog Press

While Americans often are critical of the way news organizations do their jobs, public support for the news media’s role as a political watchdog has endured. In every Pew survey conducted since 1985, a majority has said that press criticism of political leaders does more good than harm. Currently, 58% say press criticism of political leaders is worth it because keeps leaders from doing things that should not be done, while 27% believe criticism keeps political leaders from doing their jobs.

As with other attitudes, partisanship plays a role in peoples’ evaluations, but the direction of the partisan divide depends on who holds the White House. Under the presidencies of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, Democrats were more firmly supportive than Republicans of

	<i>Reagan/ --Bush Sr.--</i>		<i>-----Clinton-----</i>			<i>----George W. Bush----</i>			
	1985	1989	1994	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	67	68	66	56	58	60	54	60	58
Republicans	65	63	72	60	65	51	43	44	44
Democrats	71	72	62	52	57	65	56	72	71
Independents	64	72	66	59	55	64	65	65	60
<i>R-D Gap</i>	<i>-6</i>	<i>-9</i>	<i>+10</i>	<i>+8</i>	<i>+8</i>	<i>-14</i>	<i>-13</i>	<i>-28</i>	<i>-27</i>

the role of a watchdog press. But when Clinton came into office, it was Republicans, more than Democrats, who were of the view that press criticism of political leaders was a good thing.

Over the past seven years of George W. Bush’s presidency, Democrats, again, have expressed more support for press criticism than have Republicans. But the magnitude of the partisan divide has grown to record levels as Bush’s time in office has progressed. The share of Democrats who believe that press criticism of political leaders keeps them from doing wrong has increased since Bush’s first term, and is now as high as it was in the 1980s. Meanwhile, less than half of Republicans see press criticism serving a valuable role. Currently, just 44% of Republicans believe press criticism of leaders does more good than harm – far lower than the share of Republicans holding this view under the Reagan (65%) and Bush Sr. (63%) presidencies.

More Trust the Military on Iraq

The deep political divisions in opinions about the press are reflected in views of coverage of the Iraq war. Overall, about four-in-ten Americans (42%) express a great deal or a fair amount of confidence that the press is giving the public an accurate picture of how the Iraq war is going. By comparison, more people (52%) say they are confident that the U.S. military is presenting an accurate picture of the war.

As might be expected, Republicans express little confidence in the accuracy of war coverage. Only about a third of Republicans (34%) say they have a great deal or a fair amount of confidence the press is giving an accurate picture of the war. More than twice as many Republicans (76%) have confidence that the U.S. military is accurately portraying the war in Iraq.

<i>Confidence in...</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
<i>U.S. military</i>	%	%	%	%
Great deal/fair amt	52	76	36	50
Not too much/none	44	19	62	46
Don’t know	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>The press</i>				
Great deal/fair amt	42	34	56	38
Not too much/none	56	64	43	60
Don’t know	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

By contrast, a solid majority of Democrats (56%) have confidence in the press to give an accurate picture of Iraq, while just 36% express comparable trust in the U.S. military. Nearly a quarter of Democrats (23%) say they have “no confidence at all” in the military to give an accurate account of progress in the war; about the same percentage of Republicans expresses no confidence in the press (26%).

Half of independents say they have a great deal or a fair amount of confidence in the military to give an accurate picture of how the war is going, while nearly as many independents (46%) express little or no confidence in the military. Yet independents have significantly less trust in the press when it comes to war coverage; just 38% are confident the press is giving an accurate picture of war developments, while 60% have little or no confidence in war coverage.

Public confidence in how well the military and the press are doing in informing the public about the war has changed little since the spring. In Pew's weekly *News Interest Index* survey conducted March 30-April 2, 46% said they had a great deal or a fair amount of confidence in the military to give an accurate picture of the war, while 38% said the same about the press. Confidence in both institutions is down substantially since the early phase of the war; in March 2003, 85% expressed confidence in the military to give an accurate picture or war progress while nearly as many (81%) voiced confidence in the press.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Schulman, Ronca & Bucuvalas, Inc. among a nationwide sample of 1,503 adults, 18 years of age or older, from July 25-29, 2007. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on Form 1 (N=753) or Form 2 (N=750), one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
Carolyn Funk, Richard Wike and Kim Parker, Senior Researchers
Nilanthi Samaranyake, Survey and Data Manager
April Clark, Juliana Menasce Horowitz, Robert Suls, and Shawn Neidorf, Research Associates
James Albrittain, Executive Assistant
Nikki Graf, Intern

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JULY 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY / MEDIA UPDATE
FINAL TOPLINE
July 25-29, 2007
N=1,503

QUESTIONS 1-14 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

Q.15 Now I'd like your opinion of some groups and organizations in the news. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS a. THRU e. FOLLOWED BY RANDOMIZED ITEMS f. THRU i; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS)** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **(INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")**

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never	Can't
								Heard of	Rate
ITEMS a-e PREVIOUSLY RELEASED									
f.	Network television news such as ABC, NBC, and CBS	65	22	43	27	9	18	*	8=100
	June, 2005 ¹	68	19	49	23	6	17	*	9=100
	July, 2001	72	17	55	23	7	16	*	5=100
	August, 1999	74	19	55	24	6	18	*	2=100
	June, 1999	68	20	48	28	6	22	*	4=100
	February, 1998	76	16	60	22	5	17	*	2=100
	February, 1997	73	15	58	23	5	18	*	4=100
	April, 1996	79	21	58	17	4	13	0	4=100
	January, 1996	83	25	58	15	4	11	*	2=100
	June, 1995	67	16	51	30	9	21	*	3=100
	July, 1994	69	17	52	29	7	22	*	2=100
	May, 1993	81	23	58	15	3	12	0	4=100
	January, 1992	82	27	55	13	2	11	0	5=100
	November, 1991	75	24	51	21	5	16	0	4=100
	March, 1991	91	40	51	7	2	5	0	2=100
	May, 1990	82	22	60	15	3	12	*	3=100
	August, 1989	82	28	54	14	3	11		4=100
	February, 1989	82	21	61	15	3	12		3=100
	August, 1988 (RVs)	81	29	52	14	5	9		5=100
	May, 1988	78	20	58	18	4	14		4=100
	January, 1988	81	12	69	16	3	13		3=100
	January 7-18, 1988	78	18	60	18	4	14		4=100
	October, 1987	81	19	62	13	3	10		6=100
	May, 1987	84	21	63	14	3	11		2=100
	January, 1987	74	19	55	22	6	16		4=100
	July, 1986	83	30	53	14	4	10		3=100
	August, 1985	81	30	51	10	2	8		7=100
	July, 1985	84	25	59	10	2	8		6=100
g.	The daily newspaper you are most familiar with	69	21	48	19	6	13	*	12=100
	June, 2005	72	22	50	18	5	13	0	10=100
	July, 2001	75	24	51	17	5	12	*	8=100

1 In June 2005, "...such as ABC, NBC, and CBS" was added to the question wording.

Q15 CONTINUED...

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never Heard of	Can't Rate
August, 1999	78	22	56	18	5	13	*	4=100
June, 1999	79	24	55	17	6	11	*	4=100
February, 1998	74	18	56	18	5	13	*	8=100
February, 1997	74	21	53	19	4	15	0	7=100
April, 1996	80	24	56	16	4	12	0	4=100
January, 1996	79	27	52	16	5	11	*	5=100
June, 1995	74	22	52	21	7	14	1	4=100
July, 1994	80	23	57	18	5	13	*	2=100
May, 1993	81	26	55	14	4	10	0	5=100
January, 1992	78	27	51	18	5	13	0	4=100
November, 1991	80	24	56	16	5	11	0	4=100
March, 1991	85	30	55	10	3	7	*	5=100
May, 1990	78	22	56	17	5	12	*	5=100
August, 1989	77	25	52	17	5	12	6=100	
February, 1989	78	22	56	17	4	13	5=100	
August, 1988 (RVs)	78	30	48	15	5	10	7=100	
May, 1988	78	19	59	17	4	13	5=100	
January, 1988	81	19	62	14	3	11	5=100	
January 7-18, 1988	80	21	59	16	4	12	4=100	
October, 1987	79	21	58	13	4	9	8=100	
May, 1987	81	22	59	15	3	12	4=100	
January, 1987	76	19	57	19	6	13	5=100	
July, 1986	79	28	51	17	6	11	4=100	
August, 1985	77	25	52	15	5	10	8=100	
July, 1985	81	25	56	11	3	8	8=100	
h. Large nationally influential newspapers such as the New York Times and the Washington Post								
Washington Post	39	11	28	26	13	13	2	33=100
June, 2005	38	10	28	25	10	15	1	36=100
July, 2001	52	13	39	17	6	11	1	30=100
February, 1998	47	9	38	18	6	12	1	34=100
February, 1997	41	8	33	20	7	13	2	37=100
January, 1992	53	16	37	13	4	9	0	34=100
July, 1985	48	12	36	11	3	8	1	40=100
i. Local television news								
Local television news	73	25	48	20	6	14	*	7=100
June, 2005	73	22	51	20	6	14	*	7=100
July, 2001	79	25	54	17	4	13	*	4=100
June, 1999	74	25	49	22	7	15	*	4=100
February, 1998	81	19	62	16	4	12	0	3=100
February, 1997	81	25	56	15	3	12	0	4=100
April, 1996	84	26	58	13	3	10	*	3=100
January, 1996	84	28	56	14	4	10	*	2=100
March, 1991	89	37	52	8	2	6	*	3=100
August, 1989	80	27	53	15	4	11	5=100	
July, 1985	84	27	57	11	2	9	5=100	

Q15 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)	
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never	Can't	
									<u>Heard of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=753]:										
j.F1	Cable news networks such as CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC	68	25	43	22	5	17	*	10=100	
	June, 2005 ²	67	23	44	18	4	14	*	15=100	
	July, 2001	78	28	50	11	3	8	*	11=100	
	February, 1998	71	26	45	12	3	9	1	16=100	
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:										
k.F2	CNN – Cable News Network	59	22	37	23	8	15	*	18=100	
	January, 1992	82	44	38	4	3	1	3	11=100	
	September, 1987	53	23	30	5	3	2	6	36=100	
l.F2	The Fox News Cable Channel	61	26	35	20	10	10	1	18=100	

ASK ALL:

Q.16 How do you get most of your news about national and international issues? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? **[ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]**

	News-					(VOL)	Don't Know/
	<u>Television</u>	<u>papers</u>	<u>Radio</u>	<u>Magazines</u>	<u>Internet</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Refused</u>
July, 2007	65	27	15	2	26	2	1
Late September, 2006	74	37	16	4	21	3	1
August, 2006	72	36	14	4	24	2	1
November, 2005	73	36	16	2	20	2	*
Early Sept, 2005³ (Hurricane Katrina)	89	35	17	*	21	3	*
June, 2005	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
March, 2003 (War in Iraq)	89	24	19	*	11	2	*
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)	90	11	14	*	5	1	1
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995	82	63	20	10	--	1	1

2 In June 2005, "Fox News Channel" was added to the question wording.

3 In Early September 2005, the question was worded "news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina." In March 2003, the question was worded "news about the war in Iraq," and in Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "news about the terrorist attacks." In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

Q.16 CONTINUED...

	Television	News- papers	Radio	Magazines	Internet	(VOL) Other	Don't Know/ Refused
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

IF '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.16 ASK:

Q.17 On television, do you get most of your news about national and international issues from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 7 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON TOTAL:	<i>Hurricane Katrina</i>							Early	
	Aug 2006	Nov 2005	Early Sept 2005 ⁴	June 2005	Dec 2004	Oct 2003	Aug 2003	July 2003	Jan 2002
12 Local news programming	13	16	19	13	15	17	17	17	16
10 ABC Network news	10	14	14	12	11	12	12	12	11
7 CBS Network news	9	12	8	9	9	8	10	11	11
11 NBC Network news	12	15	12	12	14	13	15	14	15
16 CNN Cable news	24	24	31	18	20	20	26	27	28
5 MSNBC Cable news	6	8	9	5	6	6	7	9	8
17 The Fox News Cable Channel	20	22	22	16	19	17	18	22	16
2 Other (VOL)	6	5	3	2	3	--	3	3	4
1 DK/Ref	1	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	2

ASK ALL:

ROTATE SUBJECT OF Q.18 AND Q.19:

Q.18 In general, would you say you follow [NATIONAL] news closely ONLY when something important is happening, OR do you follow [NATIONAL] news closely most of the time, whether or not something important is happening”?

- 29 Only when something important is happening
- 68 Most of the time, whether or not something important is happening
- 3 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Q.19 How about [INTERNATIONAL] news... do you tend to follow [INTERNATIONAL] news closely ONLY when something important is happening OR do you follow [INTERNATIONAL] news closely most of the time, whether or not something important is happening?

- 43 Only when something important is happening
- 54 Most of the time, whether or not something important is happening
- 3 Don't know/Refused
- 100

4 In Early September 2005, the question was worded: “Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from...”

Thinking about the news...

Q.20 Some people think that by criticizing leaders, news organizations keep political leaders from doing their job. Others think that such criticism is worth it because it keeps political leaders from doing things that should not be done. Which position is closer to your opinion?

	<u>Keeps leaders from doing their job</u>	<u>Keeps leaders from doing things that shouldn't be done</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
July, 2007	27	58	15=100
November, 2005	22	62	16=100
June, 2005	28	60	12=100
Early July, 2003	29	54	17=100
July, 2002	26	59	15=100
Mid-November, 2001	32	54	14=100
Early September, 2001	25	60	15=100
February, 1999	31	58	11=100
Early February, 1998	39	55	6=100
February, 1997	32	56	12=100
Late January, 1994	24	66	10=100
Early January, 1994	18	69	13=100
August, 1989	23	68	9=100
December, 1986	26	60	14=100
July, 1985	17	67	16=100

Q.21 In general, do you think news organizations get the facts straight, or do you think that their stories and reports are often inaccurate?

	<u>Get the facts straight</u>	<u>Stories often inaccurate</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
July, 2007	39	53	8=100
June, 2005	36	56	8=100
Early July, 2003	36	56	8=100
July, 2002	35	56	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	46	45	9=100
Early September, 2001	35	57	8=100
February, 1999	37	58	5=100
Early August, 1998	33	58	9=100
Early February, 1998	34	63	3=100
February, 1997	37	56	7=100
January, 1992	49	44	7=100
August, 1989	54	44	2=100
August, 1988	40	50	10=100
May, 1988	48	43	9=100
January, 1988	44	48	8=100
July, 1985	55	34	11=100

Q.22 In presenting the news dealing with political and social issues, do you think that news organizations deal fairly with all sides, or do they tend to favor one side?

	<u>Deal fairly with all sides</u>	<u>Tend to favor one side</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
July, 2007	26	66	8=100
June, 2005	21	72	7=100
Early July, 2003	26	66	8=100
Early September, 2001	26	67	7=100
February, 1997	27	67	6=100

Q.22 CONTINUED...

	<u>Deal fairly with all sides</u>	<u>Tend to favor one side</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
January, 1992	31	63	6=100
August, 1989	28	68	4=100
August, 1988	36	57	7=100
May, 1988	34	56	10=100
January, 1988	30	59	11=100
December, 1986	39	54	7=100
July, 1986	37	57	6=100
July, 1985	34	53	13=100

Q.23 In general, do you think news organizations are pretty independent, or are they often influenced by powerful people and organizations?

	<u>Pretty independent</u>	<u>Often influenced by powerful people and organizations</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
July, 2007	23	69	8=100
June, 2005	21	73	6=100
Early July, 2003	23	70	7=100
Early September, 2001	23	71	6=100
January, 1994	28	63	9=100
January, 1992	35	58	7=100
August, 1989	33	62	5=100
January, 1988	40	49	11=100
July, 1986	37	53	10=100
July, 1985	37	53	10=100

Q.24 In general, do you think news organizations pay too much attention to GOOD NEWS, too much attention to BAD NEWS, or do they mostly report the kinds of stories they should be covering?

	<u>Too much attention to good news</u>	<u>Too much attention to bad news</u>	<u>Report the kinds of stories they should be covering</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
July, 2007	4	64	26	6=100
June, 2005	3	67	23	7=100
Early July, 2003	2	67	25	6=100
Early September, 2001	3	67	24	6=100
May, 1991	2	54	37	7=100
August, 1989	3	64	30	3=100
July, 1985	1	60	35	4=100

Q.25 I'm going to read you some pairs of opposite phrases. After I read each pair, tell me which ONE phrase you feel better describes news organizations generally. If you think that NEITHER phrase applies, please say so. (Would you say news organizations...) [NOTE FORM SPLIT; RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

		June	Early July	July	Mid- Early Nov	Sept	Feb	Aug	Jan	July	July
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=753]:		<u>05</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>85</u>
a.F1	35 Care about the people they report on, OR	28	31	30	47	23	21	--	41	--	35
	53 Don't care about the people they report on	58	56	55	38	64	67	--	45	--	48
	7 Neither applies	9	9	10	11	10	9	--	9	--	10
	<u>5</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	--	<u>5</u>	--	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		100		100

Q.25 CONTINUED...

			Early		Mid- Early							
			June	July	July	Nov	Sept	Feb	Aug	Jan	July	July
			<u>05</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>85</u>
b.F1	29	Willing to admit their mistakes, OR	28	27	23	35	24	26	--	--	--	34
	63	Try to cover up their mistakes	62	62	67	52	67	66	--	--	--	55
	4	Neither applies	6	5	6	9	5	6	--	--	--	4
	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	--	--	--	<u>7</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100				100
c.F1	46	Moral, OR	43	45	39	53	40	40	--	--	--	54
	32	Immoral	35	32	36	23	34	38	--	--	--	13
	15	Neither applies	15	14	18	17	20	16	--	--	--	20
	<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	--	--	--	<u>13</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100				100
d.F1	52	Growing in influence, OR	49	55	57	--	55	59	--	--	--	63
	36	Declining in influence	36	29	29	--	29	32	--	--	--	17
	6	Neither applies	7	8	7	--	9	6	--	--	--	7
	<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	--	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	--	--	--	<u>13</u>
	100		100	100	100		100	100				100
e.F1	44	Protect democracy, OR	47	52	50	60	46	45	55	52	58	54
	36	Hurt democracy	33	28	29	19	32	38	19	27	18	23
	13	Neither applies	12	13	14	14	15	13	20	13	17	13
	<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:												
f.F2	69	Care about how good a job they do, OR	65	68	65	78	69	69	--	--	77	79
	23	Don't care about how good a job they do	25	22	23	14	22	22	--	--	16	11
	6	Neither applies	6	7	8	6	7	6	--	--	5	4
	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	--	--	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100			100	100
g.F2	66	Highly professional, OR	59	62	49	73	54	52	--	--	71	72
	22	Not professional	25	24	31	12	27	32	--	--	13	11
	9	Neither applies	12	9	15	12	15	13	--	--	12	9
	<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	--	--	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100			100	100
h.F2	41	Stand up for America, OR	42	51	49	69	43	41	--	53	53	52
	43	Too critical of America	40	33	35	17	36	42	--	35	28	30
	12	Neither applies	14	12	12	10	16	13	--	8	15	10
	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	--	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100	100		100	100	100
i.F2	55	Politically biased in their reporting, OR	60	53	59	47	59	56	--	47	42	45
	31	Careful that their reporting is NOT	28	29	26	35	26	31	--	39	41	36
	7	politically biased	6	9	10	11	8	8	--	7	9	7
	<u>7</u>	Neither applies	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	--	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	Don't know/Refused	100	100	100	100	100	100		100	100	100

Q.25 CONTINUED...

			Early	Mid- Early								
			June	July	July	Nov	Sept	Feb	Aug	Jan	July	July
			<u>05</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>85</u>
j.F2	52	Liberal, OR	50	51	--	--	--	--	--	54	--	41
	25	Conservative	26	26	--	--	--	--	--	26	--	19
	14	Neither applies	16	14	--	--	--	--	--	12	--	20
	<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	--	--	--	--	--	<u>8</u>	--	<u>20</u>
	100		100	100						100		100

ASK ALL:

Q.26 In your opinion, are the news organizations you are familiar with being fair or unfair to the Bush administration?

	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Unfair</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July, 2007	57	32	11=100
April, 2006	56	31	13=100
Early November, 2005	50	31	19=100
Early July, 2003	62	24	14=100
February, 2001	65	19	16=100
Clinton			
Early September, 1998	52	40	8=100
February, 1998	49	44	7=100
September, 1994	67	26	7=100
May, 1994	52	36	12=100
August, 1993	66	21	13=100
June, 1993	51	43	6=100
February, 1993	72	17	11=100
Bush, Sr.			
January, 1992	77	15	8=100
November, 1990	72	15	13=100
January, 1990	76	14	10=100
August, 1989	82	12	6=100
Reagan			
January, 1988	66	21	13=100
January, 1987	67	25	8=100
July, 1985	78	12	10=100

NO QUESTIONS 27-29

QUESTIONS 30-56 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

Q.57 How much confidence do you have that the U.S. military is giving the public an accurate picture of how the war is going? [READ]

		March 30- <u>April 2, 2007</u>	March <u>2003</u>	<i>Afghanistan</i> Mid-Nov <u>2001</u>	<i>---Gulf War---</i> March <u>1991</u>	Late Jan <u>1991</u>
17	A great deal of confidence	15	40	28	44	29
35	A fair amount of confidence	31	45	52	46	58
29	Not too much confidence	31	11	13	7	9
15	No confidence at all	21	*	4	2	2
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

Q.58 How much confidence do you have that the press is giving the public an accurate picture of how the war is going?

		March 30- <u>April 2, 2007</u>	March <u>2003</u>	<i>Gulf War</i> Late Jan <u>1991</u>
7	A great deal of confidence	7	30	26
35	A fair amount of confidence	31	51	59
36	Not too much confidence	33	14	11
20	No confidence at all	27	1	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100