In the News

<u>Top Stories</u>

Health News Index

Question: ...I'm going to read you a list of some stories covered by news organizations in the last month or so. As I read each one, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely....

News Interest Index

Question: I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely....

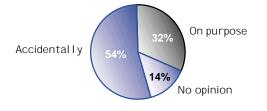
The energy crisis in Cal ifornia	Very Fairly closely closely 39% 34%	Very closelyFairly closelyThe high price of gasol ine these days61%26%
The del ay in Timothy McVeigh's execution	34% 36%	The del ay in Timothy McVeigh's execution 32% 39%
Supreme Court ruling regarding the distribution of marijuana for medical purposes	21% 33%	Reports about the condition of the US economy 34% 36%
President Bush's appointment of a new commission to make recommendations about Social Security	19% 29%	George W. Bush's new energy policy 22% 33%
The continuing debate in Congress over the "Patients' Bill of Rights"	17% 27%	The trial and conviction of a Ku KI ux KI ansman for the bombing of a bl ack church in 1963
The FDA's hearing about prescription allergy medicines Claritin, Allegra, and Zyrtec	17% 26%	George W. Bush's announcement of support for a national missil e defense system
Recent proposals to establish a global AIDS fund to help combat the AIDS epidemic in developing countries	15% 28%	The controversy surrounding 10% former Senator Bob Kerrey's role in the death of unarmed civil ians during the Vietnam War
Approval of Gleevac, a new cancer drug to treat leukemia, by the FDA	15% 25%	Source : Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Pew Research Center, May 15-20, 2001.
Congressional action on President Bush's ban on funding to interna- tional family planning groups that counsel on or perform abortions	18% <mark>21%</mark>	Haunted by the Past Question: Do you think that incidents like [the raid in which former Senator Bob Kerrey says he took part], involving the killing of unarmed civilians, were relatively common or relatively rare during the Vietnam War?
New guidel ines for the treatment of high chol esterol released by the National Institutes of Heal th	13% 21%	Relatively common 68%

Source: Survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health, *Health News Index*, May 31-June 3, 2001.

Source: Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for *Newsweek*, May 3-4, 2001.

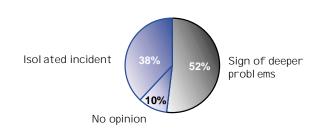
FBI is Suspect

Question: Timothy McVeigh's execution has been delayed because the FBI failed to give his defense lawyers investigative records they should have received. Do you think the FBI failed to deliver these records accidentally or on purpose?



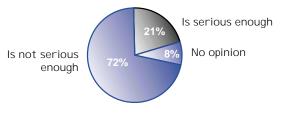
Source: Survey by ABC News/ Washington Post, May 16-20, 2001.

Question: Do you think the FBI's handling of these McVeigh documents is an isolated incident or a sign of deeper problems at the FBI?



Source: Survey by ABC News/ Washington Post, May 16-20, 2001.

Question: Do you think this problem... is or is not serious enough to throw out McVeigh's conviction and give him a new trial?



Source: Survey by ABC News/Washington Post, May 16-20, 2001.

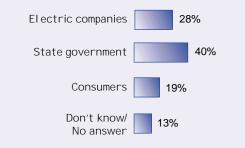
Question: Overall, how confident are you in the FBI's ability to do its job...?



Source: Survey by ABC News/Washington Post, May 16-20, 2001.

Who Turned Out the Lights?

Question: Recently, there has been a power shortage in California, and consumers are paying very high prices for electricity and experiencing periodic blackouts. Who do you blame more for this situation—the electric companies, the state government, or consumers?



Question: How likely do you think it is that this type of problem—brownouts and high prices for electricity—could occur where you live...?



Source: Survey by CBS News/New York Times, March 10-12, 2001.

Source: Survey by CBS News/New York Times, March 10-12, 2001.