Profiling the Clinton Presidency

**Question:** Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as president?

- **First Term Average**
  - Approve: 49%
  - Disapprove: 42%

- **Second Term Average**
  - Approve: 62%
  - Disapprove: 34%

**Note:** Second term average as of November 7, 1999.
**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today.

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**Question:** Since the start of 1993 when Bill Clinton became president, in general, would you say his presidency has been a success or a failure?

- 1994: 50% Success, 50% Failure
- 1999: 77% Success, 23% Failure

**Note:** Question wording varied slightly.
**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, latest that of January 22-24, 1999.

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**Question:** In the long run, do you think Bill Clinton will be a successful or unsuccessful President, or do you think it is too early to tell?

- Successful: 44%
- Unsuccessful: 24%
- Too early to tell: 29%
- Don't know: 3%

**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Pew Research Center, January 14-17, 1999.

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**Question:** In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Clinton Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

- Accomplishments outweigh failures: 56%
- Failures outweigh accomplishments: 38%
- Don't know: 6%

**Success on the Job**

**Question:** Overall, what kind of president do you think Bill Clinton has been— a very good president, a good president, an average president, or a poor president?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Survey by CBS News/New York Times, January 14-17, 1997.

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, January 3-4, 1999.

**Question:** Do you think Bill Clinton has accomplished most of what he set out to do as president?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/No answer</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Do Over**

**Question:** As you’ll remember, in 1992 Bill Clinton defeated George Bush in the presidential election. If that election were held over again today, would you vote for Clinton or Bush?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Clinton</th>
<th>Bush</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, March 10-11, 1999.

**Question:** Thinking about the candidates in the 1996 election for president, if you could vote for president again, who would you vote for— Bill Clinton the Democratic candidate, Bob Dole the Republican candidate, or Ross Perot as the Reform Party candidate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Clinton</th>
<th>Dole</th>
<th>Perot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, August 21-23, 1998.

**Note:** Asked of registered voters.
Clouds of Scandal

**Question**: From what you’ve seen of Clinton’s presidency so far, do you think that in the future will he be remembered more for the accomplishments of his administration, or more for the allegations about his personal life?

**Answer**: 74% remember him for the accomplishments, 23% remember him for his personal life, 3% do not know.


**Question**: In your view, will Clinton mostly be remembered as president for his accomplishments, or his involvement in personal scandal?

**Answer**: 71% remember him for his personal life, 23% remember him for his accomplishments, 3% do not know.

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, August 21-23, 1998.

**Question**: Do you think history will remember President Clinton as a highly respected leader or as a President under the cloud of constant scandals?

**1997**
- Leader: 31%
- Scandal: 46%

**1999**
- Leader: 20%
- Scandal: 68%

**Note**: Asked of registered voters.


**Survey** by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, October 20-21, 1999.

**Question**: Thinking about the future, how do you think the history books of the future will record the impeachment and trial of Bill Clinton... Will this event be a headline or a footnote in the history books?

**Answer**: 61% will record it as a headline, 35% will record it as a footnote, 3% do not know.

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization, January 15-17, 1999.

**Question**: How do you think Clinton will go down in history— as an outstanding president, above average, below average, or poor?

**Answer**: 35% outstanding, 17% average, 19% below average, 16% poor.

**Source**: Survey by ABC News/Washington Post, August 30-September 2, 1999.
Clinton the Man

**Question:** Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion of Bill Clinton... I like Clinton personally, and I approve of most of his policies; I like Clinton personally, but I disapprove of many of his policies; I don’t like Clinton personally, but I do approve of most of his policies; I don’t like Clinton personally, and I disapprove of many of his policies?

**1994**

- Like Clinton personally, approve of policies: 31%
- Like personally, disapprove of policies: 26%
- Don’t like personally, approve of policies: 9%
- Don’t like personally, disapprove of policies: 31%

**1999**

- Like Clinton personally, like policies: 34%
- Like personally, dislike policies: 8%
- Don’t like personally, like policies: 32%
- Don’t like personally, dislike policies: 23%

**Source:** Survey by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, October 14-18, 1994.

**Note:** Question wording varied slightly.

**Source:** Survey by the Los Angeles Times, January 27-29, 1999.

**Question:** Thinking about Bill Clinton as a person, do you have a positive or negative opinion of him?

**1994**

- Positive: 36%
- Negative: 59%
- No opinion: 4%

**1999**

- Yes, respect Clinton: 43%
- No, don’t feel that way: 55%
- Don’t know/refused: 2%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, March 5-7, 1999.

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN, February 4-7, 1999.

**Question:** Regardless of how you feel about his political views, would you say you respect President Clinton, or don’t you feel that way?

**1994**

- Positive: 4%
- Negative: 36%
- No opinion: 59%
- Don’t know/refused: 4%

**1999**

- Yes, respect Clinton: 36%
- No, don’t feel that way: 60%
- Don’t know/refused: 4%

**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization, latest that of January 15-17, 1999.

**Question:** ...[P]lease tell me whether you think [each characteristic or quality] applies or doesn’t apply to Bill Clinton... honest and trustworthy... shares your values?

**1993-1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honest/Trustworthy</th>
<th>Shares your values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 24, 1993</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 17, 1994</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5, 1995</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 15, 1996</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26, 1997</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 24, 1998</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 17, 1999</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The trend includes the first asking of each year from 1993 to 1999.

**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization, latest that of January 15-17, 1999.
In the End, Unchanged Minds

**Question:** Generally speaking, do you usually consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

![Chart showing Party ID from 1992 to 1999.]

**Note:** Trend includes the first asking of each year from 1992 to 1998, and the most recent asking.

**Question:** How would you describe your views on most political matters? Generally, do you think of yourself as liberal, moderate, or conservative?

![Chart showing Ideology from 1992 to 1999.]

**Note:** Trend includes the first asking of each year from 1992 to 1998, and the most recent asking.

**Question:** Would you say your overall opinion of the Democratic Party is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

![Chart showing Opinion of Democratic Party from 1992 to 1999.]

**Note:** Trend includes the first asking of each year from 1992 to 1998, and the most recent asking.
Once a Democrat...

**Question:** In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

**Those responding Democrat**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18-29</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>White</td>
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<td>68%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1999**

| Total | 35% |
| Men   | 28% |
| Women | 40% |
| 18-29 | 31% |
| 30-39 | 30% |
| 40-49 | 31% |
| 50-59 | 30% |
| 60-69 | 32% |
| 70+   | 30% |
| White | 30% |
| Black | 69% |

**Note:** Datasets combined for all of 1993 and January through July 1999.

**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today.