**News Interest Index**

**Question:** I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations in the 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Story</th>
<th>Very closely</th>
<th>Fairly closely</th>
<th>Not too closely</th>
<th>Not at all closely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recent increases in the price of gasoline</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The shooting of a 6-year-old girl at a Michigan school</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News about candidates for the 2000 presidential election</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The acquittal of four NY policemen who shot and killed Amadou Diallo</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent major ups and downs in the US stock market</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pope John Paul asking God's forgiveness for sins committed by the Catholic Church</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood rescue efforts in Mozambique</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports about the multi-millionaire who met and married a woman on national television</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing tensions between China and Taiwan</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Health News Index**

**Question:** I am 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Story</th>
<th>Very closely</th>
<th>Fairly closely</th>
<th>Not too closely</th>
<th>Not at all closely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recent increases in the price of gasoline</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pope's trip to Israel and the Holy Land</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidential primary elections and the race for the Republican and Democratic nominations</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Clinton's recent gun control initiatives</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Supreme Court's ruling on the authority of the FDA to regulate tobacco</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White House and government agencies' concerns about the increase in prescriptions of psychiatric drugs for young children</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A recent action by the FDA involving the diabetes drug, Rezulin</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Clinton's trip to India and other countries in southern Asia</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional action to remove limits on how much people can collect in Social Security benefits</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health, Health News Index, March 31-April 3, 2000.
Stand Up and Be Counted

**Question:** Have you happened to see any television ads in recent weeks by the Census encouraging citizens to return their Census forms, or have you not seen these ads?

![Graph showing the response to the question about Census ads.](image)


**Question:** Do you think the Census is useful, or do you think it’s a waste of money?

![Graph showing the response to the question about the usefulness of the Census.](image)


**Question:** Do you think it really matters whether you fill out the Census questionnaire or not?

![Graph showing the response to the question about the importance of filling out the Census.](image)


**Question:** Do you believe the Census Bureau when it says the information you give about yourself will be kept confidential, or do you think the Census Bureau will share the information with other government agencies like the Internal Revenue Service?

![Graph showing the response to the question about the confidentiality of Census information.](image)


**Elian Gonzalez**

**Question:** As you may know, the US government recently decided to send the boy [Elian Gonzalez] back to Cuba to live with his father rather than have him remain with relatives in the United States. From what you know about this case, do you approve or disapprove of the decision to send the boy to Cuba to live with his father?

![Graph showing the response to the question about the decision to send Elian Gonzalez to Cuba.](image)

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, March 30-April 2, 2000.

**Question:** Do you think the Clinton Administration and Justice Department are making their decisions in this case mostly on the basis of what they feel is in the best interests of Elian Gonzalez, or what they feel is in the best interests of US relations with Cuba?

| Best interests of Elian | 26% |
| US relations with Cuba | 54% |
| Both equally (vol.) | 4% |
| Neither/Other (vol.) | 9% |
| No opinion | 7% |

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, March 30-April 2, 2000.