# **Economy**

## **Cruising into Summer**

#### **National Economy**

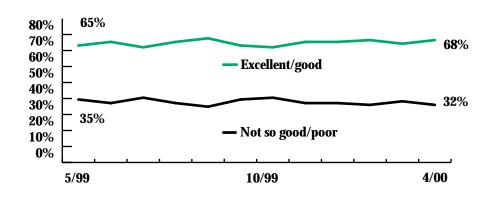
**Question**: Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?



Positive Ratings				
2000				
April 2	71%	October 3	70%	
March 5	77	September 6	73	
February 6	78	August 1	75	
January 2	76	July 4	74	
1999 <sup>°</sup>		June 6	71	
December 5	74	May 2	73	
November 7	69	J		
Highest		Lowest		
recorded*	80%	recorded*	7%	
(1/16/00)		(12/22/91)		
*0. 1007		Average*	39%	
*Since 1985				

#### **Personal Finances**

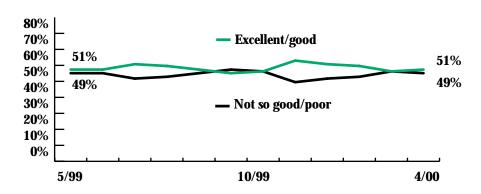
**Question**: Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?



Positive Ratings				
2000				
April 2	68%	October 3	65%	
March 5	66	September 6	69	
February 6	68	August 1	67	
January 2	67	July 4	64	
1999 <sup>°</sup>		June 6	67	
December 5	67	May 2	65	
November 7	64			
Highest		Lowest		
recorded*	70%	recorded*	42%	
(8/30/98)	.070	(3/14/93)	12.70	
		Average*	56%	
*Since 1985		-		

### **Buying It Now**

**Question**: Considering the cost of things today and your own personal finances, would you say now is an excellent time, a good time, a not so good time, or a poor time to buy the things you want and need?



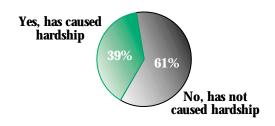
Source: Surveys by ABC News/Money, latest that of April 2, 2000.

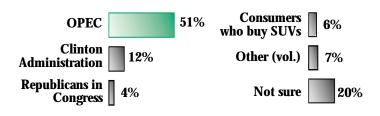
Positive Ratings					
2000					
April 2	51%	October 3	49%		
March 5	50	September 6	51		
February 6	53	August 1	53		
January 2	54	July 4	54		
1999 ັ		June 6	51		
December 5	56	May 2	51		
November 7	50	J			
Highest		Lowest			
recorded*	57%	recorded*	20%		
(1/16/00)		(10/28/90)			
*Since 1985		Average*	38%		

## On an Empty Tank

**Question**: ...Have recent price increases in gasoline caused any financial hardship for you or your household?

**Question**: Who do you think is to blame for rising gasoline prices: OPEC—the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in the Middle East—the Clinton Administration, the Republican Congress, or consumers who buy SUVs and other gas guzzlers?





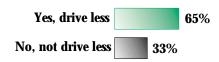
**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/*USA Today*, March 30-April 2, 2000.

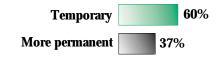
Note: Asked of registered voters.

Source: Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, March 22-23, 2000.

**Question**: ...If the price of gas goes to \$2.00 per gallon this summer, would that cause you to drive less than you might have otherwise, or not?

**Question**: ...Do you think the current rise in gas prices represents a temporary fluctuation in prices or a more permanent change in prices?





Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/  $USA\ Today$ , March 10-12, 2000.

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/*USA Today*, March 30-April 2, 2000.

