Our first questions are about education.

**Q1.** Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, or FAIL to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves, in your community, were graded in the same way. What grade would you give your community’s public schools?

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<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
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**Q2.** How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally?

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**Q3.** In order to improve public education in America, some people think the focus should be on reforming the existing public school system. Others believe the focus should be on finding an alternative to the existing public school system. Which approach do you think is preferable?

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**Q4.** In your opinion is there too much emphasis on standardized testing in the public schools in your community, about the right amount, or not enough emphasis?

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A
B
C
D
Fail
Haven’t thought much about it.

Q2. How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally?

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Which approach do you think is preferable?

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Finding an alternative system
Couldn’t say

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About the right amount
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Couldn’t say
Q5. Some people think increased use of standardized tests in the public schools is good because it helps evaluate the performance of students and schools. Some people think it is bad because it forces teachers to emphasize only what is measured in the tests.

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is very bad and 10 is very good, and 5 is neither bad nor good, indicate whether you think it would be bad or good to increase the use of standardized tests in the public schools.

(Very bad) 0  1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (very good)

Q6. Some people think that tests for student achievement should be set at the state level and applied in the same way to all students in the state. Others think that local school boards should make these decisions in each community. Which do you think?

Decisions about testing should be made at the state level
Decisions should be made by local school boards in each community
Couldn’t say

Q7. Do you support or oppose the following proposals for reforming the school system in your community? Please indicate 0 if you strongly oppose, 5 if you neither oppose nor support and 10 if you strongly support.

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Q7a. Fund more charter schools with money from the public school system

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Q8c. parental involvement
Q8d. quality of teachers
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Q8f. funding
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Q8h. use of technology

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Q10. And second most important?

Table should have two columns for most important and second most important.

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If you think their priorities are completely the same as yours answer 10. If you think their priorities are completely different from yours, answer 0. If it is about half and half answer 5.

Completely different priorities 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  completely the same
Q12. From what you know or have heard about the No Child Left Behind Act, do you approve or disapprove of it or couldn't you say?

- Approve strongly
- Approve somewhat
- Neither approve nor disapprove
- Disapprove somewhat
- Disapprove strongly
- Couldn't say

Q13. How much would you say that the amount of money spent by a public school affects the quality of education it provides?

- A great deal
- Somewhat
- Very little
- Hardly at all
- Couldn't say

Q14. What do you think of the following statement?

Large classes do not have much effect on student performance.

- Strongly agree
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

Q15. Where does the US rank among wealthy industrialized nations in the math skills of students?

- In the top 3 out of 29 countries
- In the top 10 out of 29 countries
- In the bottom 10 out of 29 countries
- In the bottom 3 out of 29 countries
- Couldn't say

Q16. Has it become harder or easier in the last few years for foreign workers to get work permits to work legally in the US?

- harder
- staying about the same
- easier
- Couldn't say

Q17. Has the gap between minority students and white students in math and reading tests at the elementary school level been …?

- increasing the last few years
- staying about the same
- decreasing the last few years
- Couldn't say
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Q19. Here is a list of problems our health care system might face. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant and 10 is extremely important, and 5 is midway in between, how important would you say it is that we focus on improving each of the following?

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Q19a. The cost of health insurance

Q19b. The number of Americans without health insurance

Q19c. The cost of prescription drugs

Q19d. Medical errors or mistakes

Q19e. The medical malpractice system

Q19f. Quality of health care provided to those with insurance

Q20. Which of these do you think is most important?

Insert Table with list above and allow only one possible answer. Table should have two columns - most important and second most important (see below).

Q21. And second most important

Table should have two columns - most important and second most important.
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Completely different priorities 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 completely the same

Q23. Would you be willing to pay more than you do now for health care if this meant that many more Americans would have health insurance coverage?

Yes, at least slightly more
Yes, significantly more
No
Couldn't say

Q24. How strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Q24A.
The US should adopt a single-payer system, where a government entity accepts all healthcare fees and pays out all healthcare costs for everyone.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Couldn't say

Q24B.
The US should require employer coverage of health care, where every employer must provide insurance for all workers.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Couldn't say

Q24C.
The US should require individual coverage, where individuals must buy minimal coverage, perhaps funded by a tax credit.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
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Q24D. The US should offer uninsured Americans income tax deductions, tax credits, or other financial assistance to help them purchase private health insurance on their own.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
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Q24E. The US should offer businesses tax deductions, tax credits, or other financial assistance to help them provide health insurance to their employees.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Couldn't say

Q24F. The US should increase funding for Medicare and Medicaid even if this means increases in taxes.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Couldn't say

Q25. How effective or ineffective do you think each of the following would be for controlling health care costs?

Q25A. Increasing co-pays and deductibles for consumers

Very effective
Somewhat effective
Neither effective nor ineffective
Somewhat ineffective
Very ineffective
Couldn't say

Q25B. Relying on managed care through HMOs

Very effective
Somewhat effective
Neither effective nor ineffective
Somewhat ineffective
Very ineffective
Couldn't say
### Q25C. Limiting government funds for healthcare
- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Neither effective nor ineffective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Very ineffective
- Couldn't say

### Q25D. Increasing government control of/involvement in healthcare
- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Neither effective nor ineffective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Very ineffective
- Couldn't say

### Q26. About how many Americans are uninsured?
- 1 million
- 25 million
- 45 million
- 65 million
- 85 million
- Couldn't say

### Q27. Over the next fifty years, do you think the number of Americans over age 65 will...
- stay about the same
- increase by about half
- double
- triple
- Couldn't say

### Q28. What percentage of the uninsured do you think come from low income families?
- a quarter
- fifty per cent
- two thirds
- ninety per cent
- Couldn't say
Q29. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the role of government:

**Q29A.**
The first priority of government should be to help the worst off.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Agree somewhat</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
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**Q29B.**
The first priority of government should be to make the whole country prosper.

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**Q29C.**
The first priority of government should be to let people make their own choices.

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Q30. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

**Q30A.**
Most public policy issues are so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
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**Q30B.**
Public officials care a lot about what people like me think.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Couldn’t say</th>
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</table>
Q30C. People like me don’t have any say about what the government does.

Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither
Agree
Strongly Agree
Couldn’t say

FINALLY, WE’D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR BACKGROUND.

Q33. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

"people with views different from mine often have very good reasons for their opinions."

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly

Q34. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...?

Republican
Democrat
Independent
Other
No preference

Q34a -> IF Q35=REPUBLICAN.
Q34a. Would you call yourself a...

Strong Republican
Not very strong Republican

Q34b -> IF Q35=DEMOCRAT.
Q34b. Would you call yourself a...

Strong Democrat
Not very strong Democrat

Q34c-> IF Q34 is independent, having no preference or other .
Q34c. Do you think of yourself as CLOSER to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

Closer to the Republican Party
Neither
Closer to the Democratic Party
Q35. In general, do you think of yourself as…?

- Extremely liberal
- Liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Middle of the road
- Slightly conservative
- Conservative
- Extremely conservative
- Or haven’t you thought much about this?

Q36. In the last 7 days, how many days did you watch the news on TV?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

Q37. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

Q38. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper on the INTERNET?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

Q39. On average, how often do you participate in a conversation about public affairs?

- Almost every day
- Several times a week
- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- Practically never

Q40. How about politics in the U.S.? Generally speaking, how interested would you say you are in politics in the U.S.?

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not very interested
- Not at all interested
Q41. Are you currently employed full time?
   Yes  \(\rightarrow\) go to Q3
   No

Q42. (If No) Which of the following best describes your situation?
   Retired  \(\rightarrow\) go to Q43a
   Homemaker  \(\rightarrow\) Z1
   Looking for work  \(\rightarrow\) go to Q43a
   Working part time  \(\rightarrow\) go to Q43
   Student  \(\rightarrow\) Z1
   Unable to work  \(\rightarrow\) Z1

Q43. Which of the following best describes your employer?
   Private sector company/firm
   Government, including public schools, public universities, or public hospitals
   A non profit or not for profit agency or organization
   I am self employed

Q44. What best describes your occupation? (For example: nurse, personnel manager, accountant, auto mechanic)
   Open text box

Q45. What are your most important activities or duties? (For example: patient care, directing hiring policies, supervising order clerks, repairing automobiles, reconciling financial records)
   Open text box
Q43A. Thinking about your last job, which of the following best describes your former employer?

Private sector company/firm
Government, including public schools, public universities, or public hospitals
A non profit or not for profit agency or organization
I was self employed

Does not apply

Q44A. What best describes your former occupation? (For example: nurse, personnel manager, accountant, auto mechanic)

Open text box

Q45A. What were your most important activities or duties? (For example: patient care, directing hiring policies, supervising order clerks, repairing automobiles, reconciling financial records)

Open text box
Z1. NEXT WE’D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A PARTICIPANT.

Z1A. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not valuable at all and 5 being very valuable, please rate your overall experience in the online deliberative poll, or haven’t you thought much about this?

Not Valuable at all  0 1 2 3 4 5  Very Valuable

Z1B. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not valuable at all and 5 being very valuable, how valuable was the briefing document in helping you clarify your positions on healthcare and education, or haven’t you thought much about this?

Not Valuable at all  0 1 2 3 4 5  Very Valuable

Z1C. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not valuable at all and 5 being very valuable, how valuable were the group discussions in helping you clarify your positions on healthcare and education, or haven’t you thought much about this?

Not Valuable at all  0 1 2 3 4 5  Very Valuable

Z2. Did you personally experience any technical difficulties with your online discussions? If so, were these problems minor or major? Please check all that apply.

NO PROBLEMS  MINOR PROBS  MAJOR PROBS

Z2A. Difficulties getting into or staying in the meeting
Z2B. Difficulties with audio during the meeting
Z2C. Other technical difficulties

Z3. Did you find the online meeting software easy or difficult to use?

Very easy
Fairly easy
Fairly difficult
Very difficult
Q5. Some people think increased use of standardized tests in the public schools is good because it helps evaluate the performance of students and schools. Some people think it is bad because it forces teachers to emphasize only what is measured in the tests.

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is very bad and 10 is very good, and 5 is neither bad nor good, indicate whether you think it would be bad or good to increase the use of standardized tests in the public schools.

(Very bad) 0  1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (very good)

Q6. Some people think that tests for student achievement should be set at the state level and applied in the same way to all students in the state. Others think that local school boards should make these decisions in each community. Which do you think?

Decisions about testing should be made at the state level
Decisions should be made by local school boards in each community
Couldn’t say

Q7. Do you support or oppose the following proposals for reforming the school system in your community? Please indicate 0 if you strongly oppose, 5 if you neither oppose nor support and 10 if you strongly support.

Insert Table with 11 point scale 0-10 with labeled ends (Strongly oppose and strongly support and Couldn’t say)

Q7a. Fund more charter schools with money from the public school system

Q7b. Provide vouchers to pay some or all of the cost of private schools with money from the public school system

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Q12. From what you know or have heard about the No Child Left Behind Act, do you approve or disapprove of it or couldn't you say?

Approve strongly
Approve somewhat
Neither approve nor disapprove
Disapprove somewhat
Disapprove strongly
Couldn't say

Q13. How much would you say that the amount of money spent by a public school affects the quality of education it provides?

A great deal
Somewhat
Very little
Hardly at all
Couldn't say

Q14. What do you think of the following statement?

Large classes do not have much effect on student performance.

Strongly agree
Agree somewhat
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Q15. Where does the US rank among wealthy industrialized nations in the math skills of students?

In the top 3 out of 29 countries
In the top 10 out of 29 countries
In the bottom 10 out of 29 countries
In the bottom 3 out of 29 countries
Couldn't say

Q16. Has it become harder or easier in the last few years for foreign workers to get work permits to work legally in the US?

harder
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easier
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Q17. Has the gap between minority students and white students in math and reading tests at the elementary school level been …?

increasing the last few years
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WE WOULD NOW LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR VIEWS ON HEALTHCARE.

Q19. Here is a list of problems our health care system might face. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant and 10 is extremely important, and 5 is midway in between, how important would you say it is that we focus on improving each of the following?

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Q19a. The cost of health insurance

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Insert Table with list above and allow only one possible answer. Table should have two columns - most important and second most important (see below).

Q21. And **second most important**

Table should have two columns - most important and second most important.
Q22. To what degree do you think your elected representatives in Washington share your priorities for how to improve health care. If their priorities are completely the same as yours, answer 10. If they have completely different priorities, answer 0. If it is about half and half answer 5.

Completely different priorities 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 completely the same

Q23. Would you be willing to pay more than you do now for health care if this meant that many more Americans would have health insurance coverage?

Yes, at least slightly more
Yes, significantly more
No
Couldn't say

Q24. How strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Q24A. The US should adopt a single-payer system, where a government entity accepts all healthcare fees and pays out all healthcare costs for everyone.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Couldn't say

Q24B. The US should require employer coverage of health care, where every employer must provide insurance for all workers.

Agree strongly
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Q24C. The US should require individual coverage, where individuals must buy minimal coverage, perhaps funded by a tax credit.

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Agree somewhat
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Q24D. The US should offer uninsured Americans income tax deductions, tax credits, or other financial assistance to help them purchase private health insurance on their own.

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Q24F. The US should increase funding for Medicare and Medicaid even if this means increases in taxes.

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
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Disagree strongly
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Q25. How effective or ineffective do you think each of the following would be for controlling health care costs?

Q25A. Increasing co-pays and deductibles for consumers

Very effective
Somewhat effective
Neither effective nor ineffective
Somewhat ineffective
Very ineffective
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Q25B. Relying on managed care through HMOs

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q27. Over the next fifty years, do you think the number of Americans over age 65 will...?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>stay about the same</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase by about half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>triple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q28. What percentage of the uninsured do you think come from low income families?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fifty per cent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two thirds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ninety per cent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q29. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the role of government:

**Q29A.**
The first priority of government should be to help the worst off.

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn’t say

**Q29B.**
The first priority of government should be to make the whole country prosper.

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn’t say

**Q29C.**
The first priority of government should be to let people make their own choices.

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn’t say

Q30. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:

**Q30A.**
Most public policy issues are so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neither
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Couldn’t say

**Q30B.**
Public officials care a lot about what people like me think.

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neither
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Couldn’t say
Q30C. People like me don’t have any say about what the government does.

Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither
Agree
Strongly Agree
Couldn’t say

FINALLY, WE’D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR BACKGROUND.

Q32. Do you have school age children?

Yes
No

Q33. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: pre and post

"people with views different from mine often have very good reasons for their opinions."

Agree strongly
Agree somewhat
Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree somewhat
Disagree strongly
Q34. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...?

- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent
- Other
- No preference

Q34a -> IF Q35=REPUBLICAN.
Q34a. Would you call yourself a...

- Strong Republican
- Not very strong Republican

Q34b -> IF Q35=DEMOCRAT.
Q34b. Would you call yourself a...

- Strong Democrat
- Not very strong Democrat

Q34c-> IF Q34 is independent, having no preference or other .
Q34c. Do you think of yourself as CLOSER to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

- Closer to the Republican Party
- Neither
- Closer to the Democratic Party

Q35 In general, do you think of yourself as...?

- Extremely liberal
- Liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Middle of the road
- Slightly conservative
- Conservative
- Extremely conservative
- Or haven’t you thought much about this?

Q36. In the last 7 days, how many days did you watch the news on TV?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

Q37. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

Q38. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper on the INTERNET?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day
### Q39. On average, how often do you participate in a conversation about public affairs?

- Almost every day
- Several times a week
- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- Practically never

### Q40. How about politics in the U.S.? Generally speaking, how interested would you say you are in politics in the U.S.?

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not very interested
- Not at all interested

### Q41. Do you go to religious services...?

- Every week
- Almost every week
- Once or twice a month
- A few times a year
- Never