

# THE PIPA/KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS POLL

## THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

### PIPA-Knowledge Networks Poll: Americans on CAFTA and US Trade Policy

#### Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: June 22–26, 2005  
Sample Size: 812

Margin of Error: +/- 3.5 % [full sample]  
+/- 4.0 % [3/4 sample]

*Q1 –Q12. To be released separately*

[CAFTA QUESTIONS]

[3/4 SAMPLE C,D,A]

Q13. As you may know, international trade has increased substantially in recent years. I would like to know how positive or negative you think the growth of international trade is, OVERALL. Please answer on a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being completely negative, 10 being completely positive, and 5 being equally positive and negative.

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
0.....	5%	3	
1.....	2	2	
2.....	4	4	
3.....	8	7	
4.....	9	7	
5.....	35	38	
6.....	11	9	
7.....	10	12	
8.....	10	10	
9.....	1	1	
10.....	3	4	
(No answer).....	4	3	
Negative (0-4).....	28	23	21
Equally positive and negative (5).....	35	38	35
Positive (6-10).....	35	36	40
(No answer).....	4	3	4
Mean .....	5.11	5.31	5.51
Median .....	5	5	5

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q14. I would like to know your impression of government efforts to help retrain workers who have lost jobs due to international trade. Do you think those efforts have been: [RANDOM REVERSE ORDER]

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
More than adequate.....	5%	5	2
Adequate .....	26	26	29
Not adequate .....	63	63	57
(No answer).....	6	6	12

[3/4 SAMPLE D,A,B]

Q15. Do you think that countries that are part of international trade agreements should or should not be required to maintain minimum standards for working conditions?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
Should be required .....	90%	93	93
Should not be required.....	7	5	6
(No answer).....	3	2	1

Q16. Overall, do you think that countries that are part of international trade agreements should or should not be required to maintain minimum standards for protection of the environment?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>6/02*</b>
Should be required .....	93%	93	94
Should not be required.....	4	4	4
(No answer).....	3	3	2

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q17. I would like to know how you feel about the process of increasing trade between countries through lowering trade barriers, such as taxes on imports. Do you feel this process has been going too fast, too slowly, or at about the right pace? Would you say much too (fast/slow) or a bit too (fast/slow)?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
Much too fast .....	15%	17%	13
A bit too fast.....	17	24	17
About the right pace.....	41	31	39
A bit too slowly.....	16	14	14
Much too slowly .....	3	4	9
(No answer).....	8	11	8

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\* Taken from the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations June 2002 Worldviews survey.

Q18. As you may know, the US and some countries of Central America have negotiated a treaty called the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) that is similar to what the US now has with Mexico and Canada in NAFTA. Would you favor or oppose Congress approving such a new agreement?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Favor .....	50%	49
Oppose .....	39	42
(No answer).....	11	10

[IF OPPOSE OR NO ANSWER TO Q18]

[SAMPLE A,B]

Q20a-1. Suppose the US government, as part of CAFTA, were to commit to substantially increase federal spending on programs to help American workers who lose their jobs. In this case, would you favor or oppose Congress approving such a new agreement?

Favor .....	40%*
Oppose .....	47
(No answer).....	13

[SAMPLE C,D]

Q20a-2. Suppose the US government, as part of CAFTA, were to commit to make sure that Central American countries enforce health and safety standards for their workers. In this case, would you favor or oppose Congress approving such a new agreement?

Favor .....	31%*
Oppose .....	58
(No answer).....	11

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q20b. Suppose the US government, as part of CAFTA, were to commit:

--to substantially increase federal spending on programs to help American workers who lose their jobs,

AND

--to make sure that Central American countries enforce health and safety standards for their workers.

In this case, would you favor or oppose Congress approving such a new agreement?

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\* Percent of those asked who did not initially favor Congress approving CAFTA.

Favor .....	65%
Oppose .....	29
(No answer).....	6

Q21. Which of the following three positions comes closest to your point of view about lowering trade barriers such as tariffs?

I favor agreements between the US and other countries to mutually lower trade barriers, provided the government has programs to help workers who lose their jobs .....	55%
I favor agreements to lower trade barriers, but I oppose government programs to help workers who lose their jobs .....	11
I oppose agreements to lower trade barriers .....	27
(No answer).....	7

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q22. Some people say that the federal government should invest more in worker retraining and education to help workers adapt to changes in the economy. Others say that such efforts just create big government programs that do not work very well. Which comes closer to your view?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
First statement: government should .....	56%	51	66
Second statement: government should not.....	38	43	31
(No answer).....	6	6	3

[3/4 SAMPLE C,D,A]

Q23. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement:

While we cannot expect workers in foreign countries to make the same wages as in the US, we should expect other countries to permit wages to rise by allowing workers to organize into unions and by putting a stop to child labor.

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Agree.....	83%	81%
Disagree .....	14	15
(No answer).....	3	4

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q24. Do you think the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, has been good or bad for the United States?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
Good.....	46%	47	44
Bad .....	40	39	30
Neither.....	12*	6*	7
(No answer).....	2	7	19

[3/4 SAMPLE B,C,D]

Q25. Some people say that if people in other countries are making products that we use, this creates a moral obligation for us to make efforts to ensure that they do not have to work in harsh or unsafe conditions. Others say that it is not for us to judge what the working conditions should be in another country. Do you feel that we do or do not have a moral obligation to make efforts to ensure that workers in other countries who make products we use are not required to work in harsh or unsafe conditions?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
Yes, have moral obligation .....	74%	74	74
No, don't have moral obligation.....	24	20	23
(No answer).....	2	6	3

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q26. Some people say that the government should provide wage insurance for people who lose their jobs as a result of the growth of international trade. This would mean that when the person finds a new job, the government will ensure that that person makes at least three quarters of what they originally earned, by making up the difference. Which view is closest to yours:

[ARO]

I oppose this idea because I don't think such government programs work .....	42%
I oppose this idea because I think three-quarters of their previous wages is too much .....	10
I favor this idea because it will help people who lose their jobs because of the growth of trade.....	31
I favor this idea, but I do not think that three quarters of their previous wages is enough.....	13
(No answer).....	5

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\* Respondent who did not answer initial question were given third option, "neither."

[3/4 SAMPLE D,A,B]

Q27. As you may know with freer trade, jobs are often lost due to imports from other countries, while new jobs are created when the US exports more products to other countries. I'd like you to imagine in one industry some jobs are lost because of foreign competition, while in a different industry an equal number are created, but these new jobs pay higher wages. Which of the following statements about this do you agree with most? [RANDOM REVERSE ORDER]

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>	<b>10/99</b>
Even if the new jobs that come from freer trade pay higher wages, overall it is not worth all the disruption of people losing their jobs.....	52%	59	56
It is better to have the higher paying jobs, and the people who lost their jobs can eventually find new ones .....	41	32	40
(No answer).....	7	9	4

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q28. Which position is closest to yours?

I support the growth of international trade in principle and I approve of the way the US government is expanding international trade, because overall it is good for the US economy.....	16%
I support the growth of international trade in principle, but I am not satisfied with the way the US government is dealing with the effects of trade on American jobs, the poor in other countries and the environment.....	56
I do not support the growth of international trade because I think the costs inevitably outweigh the benefits.....	23
(No answer).....	6

Q29. As you may know, at the G8 Summit there will be discussion of the idea of all the wealthy countries committing at least seven tenths of one percent of their gross domestic product to reducing poverty and disease, and promoting economic development in poor countries, especially in Africa. If the other wealthy countries are willing to make this

commitment, do you think the US should or should not be willing to make such a commitment?

Should .....	65%
Should not .....	29
(No answer).....	6

[3/4 SAMPLE A,B,C]

STATEMENT: The next questions are about farm subsidies. These are various forms of financial aid the US government gives to small farms and large farming businesses that produce a variety of crops.

Q30: Do you favor or oppose the US government giving subsidies to small farmers, who work farms less than 500 acres?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Favor .....	74%	77
Oppose .....	21	19
(No answer).....	5	4

[THOSE WHO SAY FAVOR OR DK IN ABOVE]

Q30a: Do you favor or oppose the US government giving subsidies to small farmers:

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Only in bad years .....	47%*	44*
On a regular annual basis .....	28	34
(No answer).....	4	3

Q31: Do you favor or oppose the US government giving subsidies to large farming businesses?

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Favor .....	26%	31
Oppose .....	70	65
(No answer).....	4	4

[THOSE WHO SAY FAVOR OR DK IN ABOVE]

Q31a: Do you favor or oppose the US government giving subsidies to large farming businesses:

	<b>6/05</b>	<b>1/04</b>
Only in bad years .....	18%*	24*
On a regular annual basis .....	9	9
(No answer).....	3	3

\* All numbers are a percentage of full sample  
 \* All numbers are a percentage of full sample

Q32: Is it your impression that farm subsidies in the US:

Hurt farmers in poor countries .....	19%
Have no significant effect on farmers in poor countries.....	71%
(No answer).....	10

Q33-39

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA:

D1. In politics today, do you think of yourself as:

Republican .....	35%
Independent.....	27
Democrat.....	38

D2. What is your religious preference? Do you consider yourself:

Christian.....	68.9%
Jewish.....	1.3
Muslim .....	0.5
Buddhist .....	0.8
Hindu.....	0.2
Agnostic .....	1.9
Atheist.....	1.1
No religious preference.....	17.1
Other religion .....	6.0

[IF “CHRISTIAN”]

D3a. Would you describe yourself as:

Protestant.....	43%*
Catholic .....	17
Mormon.....	1.5
Orthodox .....	1.5

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\* Percent of total



[IF “CHRISTIAN”]

D3b. Would you describe yourself as a 'born-again' or evangelical?

Yes .....	24%*
No.....	30
No opinion .....	14

[IF ANSWER “CHRISTIAN, JEWISH, MUSLIM, BUDDHIST, HINDU, OR OTHER RELIGION” IN QUESTION D3]

D4. How often do you attend church or attend religious services--at least once a week, almost every week, about once a month, seldom, or never?

Once a week.....	27%*
Almost every week .....	9
About once a month.....	8
Seldom .....	28
Never.....	6

D5. Age

18-29 .....	22%
30-44 .....	29
45-59 .....	27
60+ .....	22

D6. Education

Less than high school.....	16%
High school .....	32
Some college.....	27
Bachelor’s degree or higher .....	25

D6. Race/Ethnicity

White, non-Hispanic .....	70%
Black, non-Hispanic.....	11
Other, non-Hispanic .....	6
Hispanic .....	12

D7. Gender

Male .....	48%
Female.....	52

D8. Region based on state of residence

Northeast.....	19%
Midwest.....	23
South.....	36
West .....	23