

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SURVEY – 2006

1. What grade are you currently in?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Below 9th	2%	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> 9th	29%	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> 10th	27%	27%
<input type="checkbox"/> 11th	23%	24%
<input type="checkbox"/> 12th	19%	18%

2. How interested are you in following news and current events in general?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Extremely interested	4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Very interested	17%
<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat interested	69%
<input type="checkbox"/> Not interested at all	10%

3. There are many reasons why people say they don't pay attention to the news. Please CIRCLE whether or not each of the following is a reason why you may not pay attention to the news.

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm too busy	67%
<input type="checkbox"/> I get my news from friends or family	67%
<input type="checkbox"/> The news doesn't affect me personally	28%
<input type="checkbox"/> The news is not presented in an interesting way	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> I can't understand it	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> Other reasons:	8%

4. Do you currently have access to the Internet:

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> At home?	87%
<input type="checkbox"/> At School?	97%

5. Short for "weblogs," "blogs" are defined as online journals in which people post diary entries about their personal experiences and opinions, to be read online by others. Examples of blog collections include myspace.com and facebook.com. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from blogs?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	52%

6. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from online or Internet sources in general?

(if you answer NEVER, skip to Page 2)

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	29%

7a. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from the following sources: The news pages of Internet service providers such as Google news, Microsoft news, AOL news or Yahoo news?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	18%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	25%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	23%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	22%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	12%

7b. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from the following sources: Network TV news web sites such as CNN.com, ABCNews.com, or MSNBC.com?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	17%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	19%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	27%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	28%

7c. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from the following sources: The web sites of major national newspapers such as USA Today.com, New York Times.com, or the Wall Street Journal online?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	3%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	6%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	26%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	53%

7d. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from the following sources: The web sites of your local newspaper or TV stations?

**2006**

- Every day 7%
- Several times a week 12%
- About once a week 15%
- Less than once a week 26%
- Never 40%

8. How often, if at all, do you get news and information from entertainment programs that feature some discussion of current events such as The Daily Show, The Colbert Report and South Park?

**2006**

- Every day 8%
- Several times a week 18%
- About once a week 20%
- Less than once a week 21%
- Never 33%

9a. Which of these media sources do you consider the best overall source of news?

**2006**

- Newspapers 23%
- Magazines 5%
- Radio Stations 9%
- Television Stations 45%
- Blogs 1%
- Internet publications other than blogs 10%
- Entertainment programs featuring current events 7%

9b. Which of these media sources do you consider the most accurate?

**2006**

- Newspapers 35%
- Magazines 3%
- Radio Stations 6%
- Television Stations 44%
- Blogs 1%
- Internet publications other than blogs 9%
- Entertainment programs featuring current events 3%

9c. Which of these media sources do you consider the easiest to use?

**2006**

- Newspapers 12%
- Magazines 3%
- Radio Stations 11%
- Television Stations 43%
- Blogs 2%
- Internet publications other than blogs 21%
- Entertainment programs featuring current events 7%

10. How much do you trust journalists to tell the truth? Do you believe they tell the truth...

**2004**

**2006**

- All of the time 4% 4%
- Some of the time 58% 59%
- Little of the time 23% 23%
- Not at all 9% 6%
- Don't know 6% 8%

11. Do you feel that the emergence of the Internet has made journalism better, worse, or hasn't made much of a difference?

**2006**

- Better 30%
- Worse 20%
- Not much difference 50%

12a. Now thinking about what you do online... How often, if at all, do you ... use the Internet, the World Wide Web or an online service to send or receive e-mails to select individuals or groups of individuals?

**2006**

- Every day 30%
- Several times a week 26%
- About once a week 15%
- Less than once a week 14%
- Never 15%

12b. Now thinking about what you do online... How often, if at all, do you ... use the Internet, the World Wide Web or an online service to participate in online discussions or chat groups?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	18%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	41%

12c. Now thinking about what you do online... How often, if at all, do you ... use the Internet, the World Wide Web or an online service to post messages or opinions to online columns or blogs that may be read by the general public?

	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> Several times a week	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a week	17%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	51%

13a. Have you ever taken classes in high school that dealt with the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	58%	72%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	42%	28%

13b. Have you ever taken classes in high school that discuss the role of media in society?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	52%	62%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	48%	38%

13c. Have you ever taken classes in high school that dealt primarily with journalism skills?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	21%	26%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	79%	74%

13d. Have you ever taken a class in high school where the teacher required as a class assignment that you read a newspaper or watch television news?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	75%	81%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	25%	19%

14. Please indicate whether or not you have been involved in any of the following activities at your high school (check all that apply):

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Student newspaper	8%	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> Student magazine with a news component (does not include literary magazines or yearbooks)	4%	2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Student-run radio station with a news component	4%	2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Student-run television station with a news component	5%	5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Internet or World Wide Web publication with a news component	5%	4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Any other form of student media with a news component	5%	4%

15. The First Amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution more than 200 years ago. This is what it says:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

Based on your own feelings about the First Amendment, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: The First Amendment goes too far in the rights it guarantees.

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	12%	18%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly agree	23%	27%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly disagree	19%	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree	25%	21%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	21%	19%

16. Overall, do you think the press in America has too much freedom to do what it wants, too little freedom to do what it wants, or is the amount of freedom the press has about right?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Too much freedom	32%	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> Too little freedom	10%	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> About right	37%	41%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	21%	18%

17a. People should be allowed to express unpopular opinions.

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	51%	52%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly agree	32%	33%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly disagree	5%	5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree	2%	2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	10%	8%

17b. People should be allowed to burn or deface the American flag as a political statement.

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	8%	7%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly agree	8%	9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly disagree	11%	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree	63%	64%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	10%	8%

17c. Musicians should be allowed to sing songs with lyrics that others might find offensive.

	2004	2006
Strongly agree	40%	37%
Mildly agree	30%	32%
Mildly disagree	14%	16%
Strongly disagree	7%	7%
Don't know	9%	8%

17d. Newspapers should be allowed to publish freely without government approval of a story.

	2004	2006
Strongly agree	24%	26%
Mildly agree	27%	28%
Mildly disagree	22%	23%
Strongly disagree	14%	13%
Don't know	13%	10%

17e. High school students should be allowed to report controversial issues in their student newspapers without the approval of school authorities.

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	30%	34%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly agree	28%	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mildly disagree	18%	17%
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree	11%	8%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	13%	11%

18. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“Americans don't appreciate First Amendment freedoms the way they ought to.”

	2004	2006
Strongly agree	17%	15%
Mildly agree	33%	38%
Mildly disagree	18%	17%
Strongly disagree	9%	7%
Don't know	23%	23%

19. Are the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment something you personally think about or are they something you take for granted?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Personally think about	27%	24%
<input type="checkbox"/> Take for granted	36%	42%
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	37%	34%

20. Are you male or female?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Male	50%	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> Female	50%	50%

21. Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	15%	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	85%	88%

22. What is your race?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian	68%	73%
<input type="checkbox"/> Black/African-American	14%	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska native	2%	1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	4%	3%
<input type="checkbox"/> Some other race	12%	12%

23. Thinking about your family's current financial situation do you consider yourself to be rich, upper income, middle income, lower income, or poor?

	2004	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Rich	5%	4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Upper income	23%	24%
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle income	59%	61%
<input type="checkbox"/> Lower income	10%	9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	4%	2%

24. What is your approximate overall high school grade point average?

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2006</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 0.0-2.0 (or 0-75)	7%	6%
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.1-3.0 (or 76-85)	31%	31%
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.1-3.5 (or 86-90)	31%	32%
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.6-4.0 (or 91-95)	22%	23%
<input type="checkbox"/> Over 4.0 (over 95)	9%	8%

25. Which of the following grades is closest to your current overall grade point average?

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2006</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A	28%	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> B	42%	45%
<input type="checkbox"/> C	23%	21%
<input type="checkbox"/> D	4%	3%
<input type="checkbox"/> F	2%	1%

26. Which of the following best describes you?

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2006</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> I was born a U.S. citizen	90%	94%
<input type="checkbox"/> I was born in another country, but became a U.S. citizen	5%	3%
<input type="checkbox"/> I was born in another country, and I am not a U.S. citizen	5%	3%

27. Do you have any additional comments?