For Immediate Release: October 19, 2005

## Growing Number Sees U.S. Divided Between 'Haves' and 'Have-Nots' KATRINA RELIEF EFFORT RAISES CONCERN OVER EXCESSIVE SPENDING, WASTE

The public overwhelmingly supports the Hurricane Katrina rebuilding aid already approved by Congress. Going forward, however, as many Americans worry that the government will spend too much on hurricane relief as say it will spend too little. And while Katrina's potential impact on the budget has become a major issue in Washington, there is much greater public concern hurricane assistance will not go to people who really need it.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People \& the Press, conducted among 1,500 adults from Oct. 6-10, finds that $51 \%$ of Americans say their biggest concern about the government's relief effort is that the money will not go to the needy, while $32 \%$ worry that the money will be wasted on unnecessary things. Just $6 \%$ say their biggest concern is that the relief effort will add too much to the budget deficit.

| Views on Katrina Relief |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| \$62 billion allotted |  |
| to help rebuild | $\%$ |
| Approve | 80 |
| Disapprove | 15 |
| Don't know | 100 |
|  |  |
| In the long run, more | 42 |
| concerned that government... | 44 |
| Will spend too much | 8 |
| Will spend too little | 100 |
| Neither (Vol.) |  |
| Don't know |  |
|  | 51 |
| Biggest concern is | $\underline{6}$ |
| that the money will... | 6 |
| Not get to those who need it | $\underline{11}$ |
| Be wasted on unnecessary things | 32 |
| Add too much to the deficit |  |
| Other/Don't know |  |

The survey finds growing public perceptions of economic inequality in the aftermath of Katrina. Nearly half (48\%) believe that American society is divided between the "haves" and "havenots." That represents a 10-point rise since March 2005, with the increase coming across the economic spectrum.

But there has been a much smaller increase in the percentage of Americans who say they themselves fall into the "have-not" group - from 34\% in March to 38\% currently. A plurality of Americans (47\%) continue to identify themselves as among the "haves."

So far, there is no evidence that the crisis along the Gulf Coast has fundamentally changed long-term public attitudes on race, poverty and the role of government. But there has been a decided shift in views of the government's priorities. Half of Americans now say it is more important for President Bush to focus on domestic policy, while a third says he should focus on the

| Two Americas? |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Feb Mar Oct |  |  |  |
| Is American society divided | $\underline{04}$ | $\underline{05}$ | $\underline{05}$ |
| into haves and have-nots? | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Yes | 38 | 38 | 48 |
| No | 59 | 59 | 50 |
| Don't know | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Which are you? |  |  |  |
| Haves | 59 | 48 | 47 |
| Have-nots | 27 | 34 | 38 |
| Neither (vol.) | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| Don't know | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{4}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | war on terrorism. The number citing domestic policy a more important priority has declined a bit since the days immediately after the hurricane (from 56\% to $50 \%$ ), but is still much higher than it had been since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

In addition, the public by more than three-to-one (64\%-20\%) believes it is more important for Bush to focus on domestic policy than on foreign policy generally. This represents a significant shift since January, when a smaller majority (53\%) felt Bush should focus greater attention on domestic than foreign policy.

## Dem Advantage on Deficit

The public generally continues to view deficit reduction as a key priority, although it is a relatively minor concern when compared with other potential consequences of the hurricane relief effort. About four-in-ten (42\%) say that reducing the federal budget deficit should be a top priority for the president and Congress, about the same number that expressed this view in March (39\%).

Democrats continue to view deficit reduction as a more important priority than do Republicans. This is particularly the case for conservative and moderate Democrats (51\% top priority). In recent years, reducing the deficit has rated as a much higher priority for Democrats than Republicans; in the 1990s, by contrast, Republicans rated the deficit as the higher priority.

| Divided Over Importance <br> of Deficit Reduction |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| \% rating deficit reduction |  |
| as"top priority" | $\%$ |
| Total | 42 |
| Republican | 30 |
| Conservative | 26 |
| Moderatelliberal | 35 |
| Democrat | 49 |
| Conservative/moderate | 51 |
| Liberal | 41 |
| Independent | 43 |

Democrats hold a sizable advantage as the party better able to reduce the deficit. Nearly half of the public (47\%) says the Democratic Party could do a better job on this issue, compared with just $29 \%$ who choose the Republican Party. There is a high degree of partisanship in opinions on which party could do better in cutting the deficit. But just half of moderate and liberal Republicans feel the GOP would do better in reducing the deficit.

## Where to Cut?

## Democratic Advantage on Reducing Deficit

| Which party can better |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| reduce budget deficit? |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rep | Dem | Nei- |  |  |  |
|  | $\frac{\text { Party }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Party }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Both }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { ther }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { DK }}{\%}$ |
|  | 29 | 47 | 6 | 10 | $8=100$ |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 62 | 17 | 5 | 7 | $9=100$ |
| Republican | 68 | 14 | 5 | 6 | $7=100$ |
| Conservative | 50 | 21 | 5 | 11 | $13=100$ |
| Moderate/liberal | 6 | 79 | 5 | 5 | $5=100$ |
| Democrat | 5 | 79 | 5 | 6 | $5=100$ |
| Conservative/moderate | 5 | 80 | 5 | 3 | $3=100$ |
| Liberal | 27 | 44 | 6 | 15 | $8=100$ |
| Independent |  |  |  |  |  |

The public is divided over how best to finance the government's hurricane rebuilding and recovery efforts. When the prospect of reducing spending on the war in Iraq is mentioned, a plurality (31\%) chooses that option, while 20\% favor cutting domestic spending.

But these differences narrow when the former option for financing hurricane relief is described as reducing "defense and military spending," rather than reducing funding "for the war in Iraq." In this version of the question, about as many favor cutting back on domestic spending as support reducing defense and military spending ( $31 \%$ vs. $28 \%$ ). In both versions of the question, raising taxes and increasing the budget deficit are viewed as less preferable options for

| How to Pay for Disaster Relief |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The best way | Vers 1 | Vers 2 |
| to pay for relief is... | \% | \% |
| Cut Iraq spending | 31 | -- |
| Cut military/defense spending | -- | 28 |
| Cut domestic spending | 20 | 31 |
| Raise taxes | 15 | 14 |
| Increase budget deficit | 15 | 13 |
| Other/Don't know | $\underline{19}$ | $\underline{14}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | financing hurricane relief.

## Economic Gloom, But Jobs Picture Better

Public evaluations of the national economic conditions, if anything, have become a bit more negative. Just $25 \%$ of Americans see the national economy as excellent or good, while $74 \%$ say the economy is only fair (45\%) or poor (29\%). Last month, $31 \%$ expressed a positive view of the national economy.

However, people are somewhat less pessimistic in their expectations for the economy over the next year than they were in September. The number saying they expect the economy to get worse fell slightly (from 37\% to 32\%); a plurality predicts that the economy will remain about the same (45\%).

A majority of Americans (56\%) say that jobs are difficult to find in their communities, while $36 \%$ report there are plenty of jobs in their community. These assessments are a bit more positive than May 2005 when just three in ten said that plenty of jobs were available in their community. The job situation is looking better among those with lower incomes; 63\% of those earning less than $\$ 30,000$ say jobs are hard to find, down from 75\% in May.

Views of Economic Conditions

|  | May |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sept | Oct |  |
| National Economy | $\frac{05}{\%}$ | $\underline{05}$ | $\frac{05}{\%}$ |
| Excellent | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Good | 29 | 28 | 23 |
| Fair | 47 | 44 | 45 |
| Poor | 20 | 24 | 29 |
| Don't know | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{1}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Economy next year |  |  |  |
| Better | 18 | 18 | 20 |
| Worse | 24 | 37 | 32 |
| Same | 55 | 43 | 45 |
| Don't know | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Jobs in your community
Plenty available 30 -- 36
Difficult to find 60 -- 56
Depends (vol.) 6 -- 4

| Don't know | $\underline{4}$ | -- | $\underline{4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100 |  | 100 |  |


#### Abstract

ABOUT THIS SURVEY Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 1,500 adults, 18 years of age or older, from October $6-10,2005$. For results based on the total sample, one can say with $95 \%$ confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on form $1(\mathrm{~N}=758)$ and form $2(\mathrm{~N}=742)$ the sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls. © Pew Research Center, 2005


## HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS

|  | U.S. divided into haves and have-nots? |  |  | What group are you? |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Don't |  | Have- |  | Don't |  |
|  | Yes | No | know | Haves | Nots | Neither | know | (N) |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 48 | 50 | $2=100$ | 47 | 38 | 11 | $4=100$ | (1500) |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 47 | 51 | 2 | 47 | 35 | 13 | 5 | (724) |
| Female | 48 | 49 | 3 | 47 | 39 | 10 | 4 | (776) |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 43 | 54 | 3 | 51 | 32 | 12 | 5 | (1214) |
| Non-white | 64 | 34 | 2 | 31 | 57 | 10 | 2 | (245) |
| Black | 68 | 31 | 1 | 32 | 59 | 6 | 3 | (135) |
| Hispanic* | 46 | 46 | 8 | 34 | 48 | 16 | 2 | (91) |
| Race and Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White Men | 44 | 54 | 2 | 51 | 32 | 12 | 5 | (583) |
| White Women | 43 | 54 | 3 | 52 | 33 | 11 | 4 | (631) |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 49 | 48 | 3 | 50 | 40 | 7 | 3 | (185) |
| 30-49 | 44 | 54 | 2 | 47 | 38 | 11 | 4 | (524) |
| 50-64 | 55 | 44 | 1 | 44 | 41 | 11 | 5 | (427) |
| 65+ | 45 | 51 | 4 | 48 | 30 | 17 | 5 | (332) |
| Sex and Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Men under 50 | 45 | 53 | 2 | 48 | 37 | 11 | 4 | (357) |
| Women under 50 | 46 | 51 | 3 | 48 | 41 | 8 | 3 | (352) |
| Men 50+ | 51 | 48 | 1 | 47 | 32 | 15 | 6 | (355) |
| Women 50+ | 51 | 46 | 3 | 44 | 39 | 12 | 5 | (404) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 45 | 54 | 1 | 64 | 19 | 12 | 5 | (553) |
| Some College | 50 | 46 | 4 | 47 | 35 | 13 | 5 | (393) |
| High School Grad. | 49 | 49 | 2 | 37 | 49 | 9 | 5 | (437) |
| < H.S. Grad. | 45 | 52 | 3 | 42 | 46 | 11 | 1 | (99) |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$75,000+ | 42 | 56 | 2 | 70 | 15 | 12 | 3 | (356) |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 47 | 52 | 1 | 58 | 27 | 10 | 5 | (235) |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 48 | 50 | 2 | 43 | 38 | 14 | 5 | (311) |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 48 | 50 | 2 | 36 | 52 | 9 | 3 | (181) |
| <\$20,000 | 55 | 42 | 3 | 31 | 58 | 8 | 3 | (244) |

* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

Question: Some people think of American society as divided into two groups, the "haves" and the "have-nots," while others think it's incorrect to think of America that way. Do you, yourself, think of America as divided into haves and have-nots, or don't you think of America that way?

If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in, the haves or the have-nots?

|  | U.S. divided into haves and have-nots? |  |  | What group are you? |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Don't |  | Have- |  | Don't |  |
|  | $\underline{\text { Yes }}$ | No | know | Haves | Nots | Neither | know | (N) |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 48 | 50 | $2=100$ | 47 | 38 | 11 | $4=100$ | (1500) |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| East | 54 | 43 | 3 | 46 | 40 | 8 | 6 | (289) |
| Midwest | 47 | 51 | 2 | 52 | 34 | 10 | 4 | (350) |
| South | 48 | 50 | 2 | 43 | 41 | 12 | 4 | (543) |
| West | 42 | 55 | 3 | 49 | 33 | 14 | 4 | (318) |
| Religious Affiliation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total White Protestant | 39 | 60 | 1 | 51 | 31 | 12 | 6 | (689) |
| - Evangelical | 34 | 65 | 1 | 51 | 32 | 10 | 7 | (349) |
| - Non-Evangelical | 44 | 55 | 1 | 52 | 30 | 14 | 4 | (340) |
| White Catholic | 45 | 54 | 1 | 50 | 32 | 14 | 4 | (251) |
| Secular | 46 | 48 | 6 | 43 | 44 | 12 | 1 | (161) |
| Party ID |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 29 | 70 | 1 | 60 | 22 | 12 | 6 | (421) |
| Democrat | 62 | 35 | 3 | 36 | 53 | 9 | 2 | (488) |
| Independent | 48 | 50 | 2 | 50 | 34 | 12 | 4 | (488) |
| Party and Ideology |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Conservative Republican | 27 | 72 | 1 | 64 | 17 | 14 | 5 | (269) |
| Moderate/Liberal Rep. | 35 | 64 | 1 | 54 | 32 | 10 | 4 | (145) |
| Conservative/Mod. Dem. | 62 | 35 | 3 | 33 | 57 | 8 | 2 | (316) |
| Liberal Democrat | 65 | 31 | 4 | 41 | 47 | 11 | 1 | (154) |
| Bush Approval |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approve | 27 | 72 | 1 | 58 | 23 | 13 | 6 | (594) |
| Disapprove | 62 | 35 | 3 | 40 | 47 | 10 | 3 | (816) |
| Registered Voter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 46 | 51 | 3 | 48 | 35 | 12 | 5 | (1243) |
| No | 51 | 48 | 1 | 43 | 44 | 9 | 4 | (257) |
| Parents |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 43 | 55 | 2 | 48 | 37 | 10 | 5 | (456) |
| No | 50 | 48 | 2 | 46 | 38 | 12 | 4 | (1028) |
| Married |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 43 | 56 | 1 | 53 | 31 | 12 | 4 | (849) |
| No | 54 | 43 | 3 | 40 | 45 | 10 | 5 | (629) |
| Labor Union |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Union Household | 52 | 45 | 3 | 48 | 39 | 7 | 6 | (221) |
| Non-Union Household | 47 | 51 | 2 | 47 | 37 | 12 | 4 | (1243) |

# PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS <br> OCTOBER 2005 NEWS INTEREST INDEX <br> FINAL TOPLINE <br> October 6-10, 2005 <br> $\mathrm{N}=\mathbf{1 , 5 0 0}$ 

## QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 5 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

Thinking again about George W. Bush...
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=758$ ]:
Q.6F1 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or foreign policy?

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ \underline{2005} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ 2002 \end{gathered}$ | ------------- Clinton -------------- |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Early Sept |  | Ja円ec | Oct |  |
|  |  | 1998 |  | 1997 | 1994 | 1993 |
| 64 | Domestic policy |  | 53 | 52 | 56 | 86 | 85 | 76 |
| 20 | Foreign policy |  | 27 | 34 | 30 | 7 | 7 | 13 |
| 1 | Neither (VOL) | 1 | * | 0 | * | 2 | * |
| 12 | Both (VOL) | 16 | 11 | 11 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{2}$ | 4 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 10000 | 100 |  |

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=742$ ]:

Q.7F2 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or the war on terrorism?

|  |  | Sept | Jan | Aug | Jan |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2005}$ | $\underline{2005}$ | $\underline{2002}$ | $\underline{2002}$ |
| 50 | Domestic policy | 56 | 40 | 29 | 33 |
| 33 | War on terrorism | 25 | 44 | 43 | 52 |
| 1 | Neither (VOL.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | $*$ |
| 13 | Both (VOL.) | 12 | 13 | 22 | 13 |
| $\underline{3}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

## QUESTIONS 8 THROUGH 23 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

Q. 24 Considering what the president and Congress need to deal with, do you think reducing the budget deficit should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important or does it not need to be addressed this year?

|  |  | March 2005 |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 42 | Top priority | 39 |
| 38 | Important but lower priority | 46 |
| 6 | Not too important | 6 |
| 10 | Does not need to be addressed this year | 5 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ |
| 100 |  |  |

Q. 25 Would you favor or oppose [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE] as a way to reduce the budget deficit?

|  | Favor | Oppose | DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Raising taxes | 26 | 70 | 4=100 |
| March, 2005 | 31 | 66 | $3=100$ |
| b. Lowering defense and military spending | 36 | 58 | $6=100$ |
| March, 2005 | 35 | 60 | $5=100$ |
| c. Lowering domestic spending | 47 | 41 | $12=100$ |
| March, 2005 | 54 | 35 | $11=100$ |

## QUESTIONS 26 THROUGH 30 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

Q. 31 And do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job of reducing the federal budget deficit? ${ }^{1}$

|  |  | June | July | Dec |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 29 | Republican Party | $\frac{1999}{37}$ | $\frac{1994}{42}$ | $\underline{1993}$ |
| 47 | Democratic Party | 41 | 36 | 36 |
| 6 | Both equally (VOL.) | 5 | 2 | -- |
| 10 | Neither (VOL.) | 8 | 13 | 18 |
| $\frac{8}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{15}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

## NO QUESTIONS 32-48

On a different subject...
Q. 49 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

|  |  | Only |  |  | Don't Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Refused |
| October, 2005 | 2 | 23 | 45 | 29 | 1=100 |
| Mid-September, 2005 | 3 | 28 | 44 | 24 | $1=100$ |
| Mid-May, 2005 | 3 | 29 | 47 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| January, 2005 | 3 | 36 | 45 | 15 | $1=100$ |
| December, 2004 | 3 | 33 | 43 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| Early November, 2004 (RVs) | 5 | 31 | 37 | 26 | $1=100$ |
| Mid-September, 2004 | 4 | 34 | 40 | 20 | $2=100$ |
| August, 2004 | 3 | 30 | 45 | 21 | $1=100$ |
| Late April, 2004 | 4 | 34 | 38 | 22 | $2=100$ |
| Late February, 2004 | 2 | 29 | 42 | 26 | $1=100$ |
| February 9-12, 2004 (Gallup) | 2 | 31 | 46 | 21 | $0=100$ |
| January 12-15, 2004 (Gallup) | 3 | 34 | 42 | 21 | $0=100$ |
| January 2-5, 2004 (Gallup) | 3 | 40 | 41 | 16 | *=100 |
| December 11-14, 2003 (Gallup) | 3 | 34 | 44 | 19 | *=100 |
| November 3-5, 2003 (Gallup) | 2 | 28 | 49 | 21 | *=100 |
| October 24-26, 2003 (Gallup) | 2 | 24 | 44 | 30 | *=100 |


| Q. 49 CONTINUED... | Only |  |  |  | Don't Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Refused |
| October 6-8, 2003 (Gallup) | 2 | 20 | 50 | 27 | 1=100 |
| September 8-10, 2003 (Gallup) | 1 | 20 | 49 | 30 | *=100 |
| August 4-6, 2003 (Gallup) | 1 | 24 | 52 | 23 | *=100 |
| February 17-19, 2003 (Gallup) | 1 | 17 | 48 | 34 | *=100 |
| February 4-6, 2002 (Gallup) | 2 | 26 | 55 | 16 | $1=100$ |
| March 5-7, 2001 (Gallup) | 3 | 43 | 43 | 10 | $1=100$ |
| January 7-10, 2000 (Gallup) | 19 | 52 | 23 | 5 | $1=100$ |
| January 15-17, 1999 (Gallup) | 14 | 55 | 27 | 4 | *=100 |
| March 20-22, 1998 (Gallup) | 20 | 46 | 27 | 7 | *=100 |
| Jan 31 - Feb 2, 1997 (Gallup) | 4 | 38 | 43 | 15 | *=100 |
| March 15-17, 1996 (Gallup) | 2 | 31 | 48 | 18 | $1=100$ |
| May 11-14, 1995 (Gallup) | 2 | 27 | 50 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| January 15-17, 1994 (Gallup) | * | 22 | 54 | 24 | *=100 |
| February 12-14, 1993 (Gallup) | * | 14 | 46 | 39 | $1=100$ |
| January 3-6, 1992 (Gallup) | * | 12 | 46 | 41 | $1=100$ |

Q. 50 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

|  | Better | Worse | Same | Don’t Know/ Refused |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| October, 2005 | 20 | 32 | 45 | 3=100 |
| Mid-September, 2005 | 18 | 37 | 43 | $2=100$ |
| Mid-May, 2005 | 18 | 24 | 55 | $3=100$ |
| January, 2005 | 27 | 18 | 52 | $3=100$ |
| August, 2004 | 36 | 9 | 47 | $8=100$ |
| Late February, 2004 | 39 | 12 | 41 | $8=100$ |
| September, 2003 | 37 | 17 | 43 | $3=100$ |
| May, 2003 | 43 | 19 | 35 | $3=100$ |
| Late March, 2003 | 33 | 23 | 37 | $7=100$ |
| January, 2003 | 30 | 20 | 44 | $6=100$ |
| Early October, 2002 | 34 | 18 | 42 | $6=100$ |
| June, 2002 | 30 | 20 | 46 | $4=100$ |
| January, 2002 | 44 | 17 | 36 | $3=100$ |
| January, 2001 Newsweek | 18 | 33 | 44 | $5=100$ |
| June, 2000 | 15 | 24 | 55 | $6=100$ |
| Early October, 1998 (RVs) | 16 | 22 | 57 | $5=100$ |
| Early September, 1998 | 18 | 17 | 61 | $4=100$ |
| May, 1990 | 18 | 31 | 45 | $6=100$ |
| February, 1989 | 25 | 22 | 49 | $4=100$ |
| September, 1988 (RVs) | 24 | 16 | 51 | $9=100$ |
| May, 1988 | 24 | 20 | 46 | $10=100$ |
| January, 1988 | 22 | 26 | 45 | $7=100$ |
| January, 1984 Newsweek (RVs) | 35 | 13 | 49 | $3=100$ |

Q. 51 Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community or are jobs difficult to find?
(VOL)

| Plenty of jobs available | Jobs are difficult to find | Lots of some jobs, few of others | DK/ Refused |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 36 | 56 | 4 | 4=100 |
| 30 | 60 | 6 | $4=100$ |
| 32 | 58 | 5 | $5=100$ |
| 31 | 52 | 6 | $11=100$ |
| 34 | 55 | 4 | $7=100$ |
| 30 | 57 | 4 | $9=100$ |
| 31 | 59 | 5 | 6=100 |
| 27 | 60 | 6 | $7=100$ |
| 24 | 66 | 5 | $5=100$ |
| 31 | 59 | 4 | $6=100$ |
| 42 | 44 | 8 | $6=100$ |
| 15 | 76 | 6 | $3=100$ |
| 16 | 77 | 4 | $3=100$ |
| 12 | 79 | 6 | $3=100$ |

Q. 52 Some people think of American society as divided into two groups, the "haves" and the "have-nots," while others think it's incorrect to think of America that way. Do you, yourself, think of America as divided into haves and have-nots, or don't you think of America that way?

October, 2005

| Yes, divided |  | No |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 48 |  | 50 |  |
| 38 |  | $2=100$ |  |
| 38 |  | $3=100$ |  |
| 38 |  | 59 | $3=100$ |
| 44 |  | 53 | $3=100$ |
| 39 |  | 59 | $2=100$ |
| 26 |  | 71 | $3=100$ |
| 31 |  | 61 | $8=100$ |

Q. 53 If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in, the haves or the have-nots?

|  |  |  | -- Gallup --- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Late Mar | Late Feb | June | Oct | Aug |
|  |  | $\underline{2005}$ | $\underline{2004}$ | $\underline{2001}$ | $\underline{1999}$ | $\underline{1988}$ |
| 47 | Haves | 34 | 59 | 52 | 67 | 59 |
| 38 | Have-nots | 8 | 27 | 32 | 24 | 17 |
| 11 | Neither (VOL) | $\underline{70}$ | $\underline{7}$ | 10 | 6 | 15 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |  | $\underline{100}$ | 100 | 100 | $\underline{6}$ |
| 100 | $\underline{9}$ |  |  |  |  |  |

NO QUESTIONS 54-59
QUESTIONS 60 THROUGH 69 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

On a different subject...
Q. 70 Do you approve or disapprove of the 62-billion dollar relief effort President Bush and Congress have passed to help rebuild after Hurricane Katrina?

80 Approve
15 Disapprove
5 Don't know/Refused 100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=758]:
Q.71F1 Which concerns you more [READ AND ROTATE]?

26 That we are spending too MUCH money on hurricane relief OR
45 That we are spending too LITTLE money on hurricane relief
17 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Neither
12 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don’t know/Refused 100

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=742$ ]:

Q.72F2 In the long run, which concerns you more [READ AND ROTATE]?

42 That the government will spend too MUCH money on hurricane relief OR
44 That the government will spend too LITTLE money on hurricane relief
8 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Neither
6 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused
100

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N = 7 5 8 ] :}$

Q.73F1 If you had to choose, which of the following would you say is the best way for the government to pay for the problems caused by the hurricanes [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| 15 | Increase the federal budget deficit |
| ---: | :--- |
| 15 | Raise taxes |
| 31 | Cut spending for the war in Iraq |
| 20 | Cut domestic spending |
| 6 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other |
| $\frac{13}{100}$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused |

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N = 7 4 2 ] : ~}$

Q.74F2 If you had to choose, which of the following would you say is the best way for the government to pay for the problems caused by the hurricanes [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| 13 | Increase the federal budget deficit |
| ---: | :--- |
| 14 | Raise taxes |
| 28 | Cut defense and military spending |
| 31 | Cut domestic spending |
| 4 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other |
| $\frac{10}{100}$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 75 Which of the following, if any, concerns you MOST about the government's hurricane relief effort?

## [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| 32 | The money will be wasted on unnecessary things |
| ---: | :--- |
| 6 | The money will add too much to the budget deficit |
| 51 | The money won't go to the people who really need it |
| 2 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) None |
| 6 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) All/Multiple |
| $*$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other |
| $\frac{3}{100}$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused |

ASK ALL:
PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

| Trend | Republican | Democrat | Independent | (VOL) <br> No <br> Preference | (VOL) <br> Other <br> Party | Don't know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| October, 2005 | 26 | 34 | 34 | 4 | * | $2=100$ |
| September 8-11, 2005 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 3 | * | $1=100$ |
| September 6-7, 2005 | 27 | 33 | 33 | 4 | * | $3=100$ |
| July, 2005 | 31 | 34 | 29 | 4 | * | $2=100$ |
| June, 2005 | 30 | 32 | 32 | 4 | * | $2=100$ |
| Mid-May, 2005 | 30 | 34 | 29 | 4 | * | $3=100$ |
| Late March, 2005 | 29 | 32 | 36 | 2 | * | $1=100$ |
| Mid-March, 2005 | 30 | 34 | 29 | 4 | * | $3=100$ |
| February, 2005 | 31 | 32 | 30 | 4 | 1 | $2=100$ |
| January, 2005 | 32 | 33 | 30 | 4 | * | $1=100$ |
| December, 2004 | 31 | 34 | 30 | 3 | * | $2=100$ |
| Mid-October, 2004 | 30 | 33 | 30 | 4 | * | $3=100$ |
| Late September, 2004 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 6 | * | $4=100$ |
| Mid-September, 2004 | 29 | 31 | 30 | 5 |  | $5=100$ |
|  |  |  |  | (VOL) | (VOL) |  |
|  |  |  |  | No | Other |  |
| Yearly Totals | Republican | Democrat | Independent | Preference | Party | Don't know |
| 2004 | 30 | 33 | 30 | 4 | * | 3=100 |
| 2003 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 5 | * | $3=100$ |
| 2002 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 5 | 1 | $3=100$ |
| 2001 | 29 | 34 | 29 | 5 | * | $3=100$ |
| 2001 Post-Sept 11 | 31 | 32 | 28 | 5 | 1 | $3=100$ |
| 2001 Pre-Sept 11 | 28 | 35 | 30 | 5 | * | $2=100$ |
| 2000 | 28 | 33 | 29 | 6 | * | $4=100$ |
| 1999 | 27 | 33 | 34 | 4 | * | $2=100$ |
| 1998 | 28 | 33 | 32 | 5 | * | $2=100$ |
| 1997 | 28 | 33 | 32 | 4 | 1 | $2=100$ |
|  |  |  |  | o Preference |  |  |
|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent | Other/DK |  |  |
| 1996 | 29 | 33 | 33 | $5=100$ |  |  |
| 1995 | 32 | 30 | 34 | $4=100$ |  |  |
| 1994 | 30 | 32 | 34 | $4=100$ |  |  |
| 1993 | 27 | 34 | 34 | $5=100$ |  |  |
| 1992 | 28 | 33 | 35 | $4=100$ |  |  |


| PARTY CONTINUED... |  | No Preference/ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent | Other/DK |
| 1991 | 31 | 32 | 33 | $4=100$ |
| 1990 | 31 | 33 | 30 | $6=100$ |
|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent/ <br> No Pref/Oth/DK |  |
| 1989 | 33 | 33 | 34=100 |  |
| 1987 | 26 | 35 | $39=100$ |  |

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:
PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|  | Republican | Democrat | Refused to lean |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| October, 2005 | 11 | 18 | 11=40\% |
| September 8-11, 2005 | 10 | 18 | 9=37\% |
| September 6-7, 2005 | 10 | 15 | 15=40\% |
| July, 2005 | 9 | 15 | 11=35\% |
| June, 2005 | 10 | 16 | 12=38\% |
| Mid-May, 2005 | 9 | 13 | 14=36\% |
| Late March, 2005 | 13 | 17 | 9=39\% |
| December, 2004 | 14 | 12 | 9=35\% |
| August, 2003 | 12 | 16 | $14=42 \%$ |
| August, 2002 | 12 | 13 | 13=38\% |
| September, 2000 | 11 | 13 | 15=39\% |
| Late September, 1999 | 14 | 15 | 16=45\% |
| August, 1999 | 15 | 15 | $12=42 \%$ |

