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For The People & The Press

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Expectations As High As for GOP in 1994
PUBLIC CHEERS DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

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Expectations As High As for GOP in 1994
PUBLIC CHEERS DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

The Democrats' big win on Nov. 7 has gotten a highly favorable response from the public. In fact, initial reactions to the Democratic victory are as positive as they were to the GOP's electoral sweep of Congress a dozen years ago. Six-in-ten Americans say they are happy that the Democratic Party won control of Congress; in December 1994, roughly the same percentage (57%) expressed a positive opinion of the GOP's takeover.

Half of Americans approve of the Democrats' plans and policies for the future, which also is comparable to approval of the GOP's proposed agenda in 1994. However, there is one important area where the parallels to 1994 do *not* hold: By 51%-29%, more Americans want Democratic leaders – rather than President Bush – to take the lead in solving the nation's problems. Twelve years ago, the public was divided over whether GOP congressional leaders (43%), or President Clinton (39%), should take the lead in addressing national problems.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press – conducted Nov. 9-12 among 1,479 Americans – finds that Americans are optimistic that Democrats will actually get their proposals enacted. Roughly six-in-ten (59%) say Democratic leaders will be successful in getting their programs passed into law; again, this is on par with the confidence that Americans voiced about GOP legislative prospects in December 1994.

However, in the wake of a bitter midterm campaign, the public is dubious that the election will lead to increased bipartisanship on Capitol Hill. Just 29% think that relations between Republicans and Democrats will get better in the year ahead; 46% expect relations to remain the same; and 20% predict relations will get worse.

Public Views '06 Democrats Much Like '94 Republicans		
	<i>Reps</i>	<i>Dems</i>
	<u>1994</u>	<u>2006</u>
<i>Happy they won?</i>		
	%	%
Happy	57	60
Unhappy	31	24
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100
<i>Winning party's agenda...</i>		
Approve	52	50
Disapprove	28	21
Don't know	<u>20</u>	<u>29</u>
	100	100
<i>Who should take the lead on issues?</i>		
Reps/Dems in Congress	43	51
President Clinton/Bush	39	29
Both (vol.)	10	14
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100
<i>Expect the party's leaders to be...</i>		
Successful	62	59
Unsuccessful	24	22
Mixed/DK	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
	100	100
<i>Think relations in Washington will...</i>		
Get better	--	29
Get worse	--	20
Stay the same	--	46
Don't know	--	<u>5</u>
		100

In this regard, Democrats are cool to the idea of their leaders cooperating with President Bush. About half of Democrats (51%) say party leaders should “stand up” to Bush on important issues, even if that means less gets done in Washington; 42% believe Democratic leaders should try to work with Bush, even if it means disappointing some Democratic supporters. By contrast, most Republicans (61%) want their party’s leaders to try to work with Democratic leaders, while 30% believe GOP leaders should stand up to the Democrats.

<i>Democratic leaders should...</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
Work with President Bush	55	76	42	54
Stand up to President Bush	36	16	51	37
Don’t know	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Republican leaders should...</i>				
Work with Democratic leaders	71	61	80	72
Stand up to Democratic leaders	20	30	13	19
Don’t know	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100

Bush’s own job approval ratings have hit a new low in the aftermath of the elections. Just 32% of Americans approve of Bush’s job performance compared with 58% who disapprove. Bush’s job rating stands at just 24% among political independents, who proved crucial to the Democrats’ victory on Nov. 7. By 57%-39%, independent voters cast ballots for Democratic candidates, according to national exit polls. Two years ago, independent voters were more divided (50% Democrat/46% Republican). See “Centrists Deliver for Democrats,” November 8, 2006 <http://pewresearch.org/obdeck/?ObDeckID=88>).

The broad opposition to President Bush among independents is reflected in their strong preference that Democratic leaders, rather than the president, take the lead in solving the nation’s problems. By more than two-to-one (53%-25%), independents believe that Democratic leaders should take the lead on issues. In the aftermath of the 1994 elections, independents – like the public generally – were divided over whether President Clinton or Republican leaders should have a leading role in dealing with issues.

The survey finds that public perceptions of the situation of Iraq have gone from bad to worse. Overall, 64% feel that the U.S. military effort in Iraq is not going well, up from 59% last month and the highest percentage since the war began. In terms of specific evaluations of the situation, increasing numbers say the U.S. is losing

<i>Who should take the lead on issues?</i>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
2006	%	%	%
Democratic leaders	15	79	53
President Bush	65	9	25
Both (vol.)	17	9	15
Don’t know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100
1994			
Republican leaders	69	14	40
President Clinton	16	68	38
Both (vol.)	10	10	11
Don’t know	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100

ground in training Iraqi security forces (up 11 points since August), reducing civilian casualties (nine points), and preventing terrorists from establishing a base in Iraq (nine points).

Obama Moves Up

Though some of this year’s congressional elections are not yet decided, attention is already beginning to shift to the 2008 presidential race. Sen. Barack Obama has emerged as the leading rival to Sen. Hillary Clinton for the Democratic Party’s nomination.

Among registered Democrats, Sen. Clinton continues to lead by a wide margin – 39% of party voters back her, compared with 23% for Obama. But the margin narrows among independent voters; 27% say they would like to see Clinton win the Democratic nomination, while 21% favor Obama.

Among the Republican contenders, Sen. John McCain and Rudy Giuliani both continue to attract broad support. Among registered Republicans, the two run neck-and-neck (27% for Giuliani, 26% for McCain), and both receive the support of roughly three-in-ten independents as well.

The lists of potential presidential nominees for both parties mostly consist of veteran politicians, but the public wants more people from different walks of life to compete for high political office. About six-in-ten Americans (57%) say they would like to see more non-politicians run for high office, compared with 33% who think it is important to have experienced politicians running for office. Comparable percentages of independents (59%), Democrats (59%) and Republicans (56%) say it would be good for political outsiders to run for high office.

Sizing Up the ‘08 Field		
<i>Who should get the...</i>	<i>---Among---</i>	
<i>Democratic nomination</i>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>Inds</u>
	%	%
Hillary Clinton	39	27
Barack Obama	23	21
John Edwards	10	11
Al Gore	10	8
John Kerry	7	9
Joe Biden	2	6
Bill Richardson	1	3
Russ Feingold	1	2
Other (vol.)	*	1
None (vol.)	3	9
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100
<i>Republican nomination</i>	<u>Reps</u>	<u>Inds</u>
John McCain	26	32
Rudy Giuliani	27	30
Condoleezza Rice	20	15
Newt Gingrich	6	4
Mitt Romney	7	4
Bill Frist	4	2
Sam Brownback	1	1
Other (vol.)	1	*
None (vol.)	2	3
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100

Based on registered voters.

Pelosi's Stature Growing

While most Americans still are unable to name a person who stands out in their minds as the leader of the Democratic Party these days, the proportion naming Rep. Nancy Pelosi has risen sharply following the 2006 midterm elections. Currently, 10% of Americans name Rep. Pelosi as the party's leader, up from just 1% in April. Only Hillary Clinton is cited more frequently, by 12% of respondents.

There is little party divide over perceptions of the Democratic leadership – Hillary Clinton and Nancy Pelosi are mentioned most frequently by Republicans, Democrats and independents. But within the Democratic Party, liberals and conservatives take a somewhat different view. Among liberal Democrats, 14% cite Howard Dean as the party's leader, on par with the percentage who cite Clinton (14%) and Pelosi (13%). But just 2% of moderate and conservative Democrats name Dean, while 14% name Clinton and 9% name Pelosi. No other leader stands out in the minds of moderate and conservative Democrats; most are unable to name anyone as the party's leader these days.

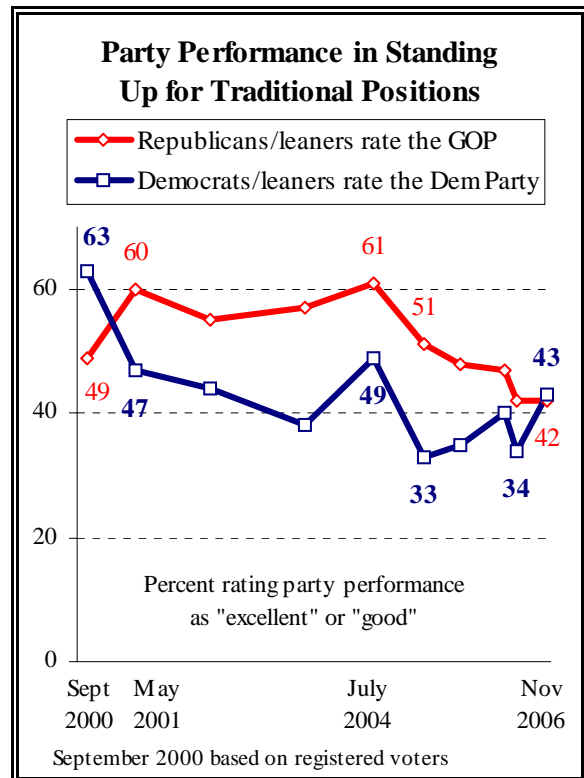
	April	Nov
	%	%
Hillary Clinton	16	12
Nancy Pelosi	1	10
Bill Clinton	4	5
Howard Dean	3	3
Barack Obama	2	2
John Kerry	3	2
Ted Kennedy	7	2
Joe Lieberman	1	1
Harry Reid	1	1
John Edwards	2	*
Joseph Biden	1	*
Other	5	2
Nobody is	30	9
Don't know	<u>24</u>	<u>51</u>
	100	100

Open-ended question.

Partisans Rate their Parties

Throughout the Bush presidency, Republicans nationwide have expressed far more satisfaction than Democrats with their party's performance in standing up for its traditional positions. But over the past two years, Republicans have become increasingly frustrated with their party. As a result, for the first time in more than six years, as many Democrats as Republicans give their party good marks for standing up for its traditional positions (43% of Democrats/42% of Republicans).

More than half of Democrats (52%) still say the party has done only a fair (45%) or poor (7%) job in advocating such traditional Democratic



positions as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people. But there is greater dissatisfaction among Republicans: 41% say the party has done only a fair job, and 15% a poor job, of standing up for traditional GOP positions like reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, and promoting conservative social values.

The last time a majority of Democrats and independents who lean Democratic gave their party positive marks for standing up for traditional party positions was during the final months of the Clinton administration (63% in September 2000). During the past six years fewer than half of Democrats and Democratic leaners felt the party was performing well in this regard, reaching an all-time low of 33% in March 2005. Democratic ratings have recovered somewhat from that low point – today 43% say the party is performing well on its traditional agenda, up from just 34% this June.

Conservative Democrats are much more positive about how well the party has performed in advocating its traditional positions than are moderate and liberal Democrats. Nearly six-in-ten conservative Democrats (58%) say the party has done an excellent or good job in this regard, compared with 40% of moderate Democrats and 37% of liberal Democrats.

Among Republicans, conservatives are more satisfied with the party’s stand on key principles than are moderates in the party. Half of conservative Republicans (50%) feel the party is doing an excellent or good job standing up for traditional party positions, compared with 28% of moderates.

	<i>Republican Party*</i>		<i>Democratic Party**</i>	
	Excel- lent/ Good %	Only fair/ Poor %	Excel- lent/ Good %	Only fair/ Poor %
Total	42	58	43	52
Conservative	50	49	58	40
Moderate	28	69	40	55
Liberal	--	--	37	57
18-49	46	53	43	53
50+	34	62	44	49

* Based on Republicans and Republican leaners
 ** Based on Democrats and Democratic leaners

The growth in Republican frustration with the party has also been most notable among older Republicans. Today, just 34% of Republicans age 50 and over say the party is performing well on its core positions, down from 48% as recently as this April. Among Democrats, there is no age divide in ratings of the party’s performance in this area.

Iraq Top Election Issue

The war in Iraq dominated the news this fall and was the central issue in the campaigns of many Democratic candidates for Congress. Pre-election polling consistently found more voters picking Iraq as the top issue in the election. However, results from the national exit polls suggested that the issue of corruption and scandals in government was more important to voters than the war in Iraq.

The national exit poll, conducted by the National Election Pool, asked voters to indicate how important each of six issues were to their vote, using a scale that ranged from “extremely important” to “not at all important.” Government corruption was mentioned by more voters as extremely important (42%) than terrorism or the economy (40%), “values issues such as same-sex marriage or abortion” (36%), or the war in Iraq (36%). When the “extremely” and “very” important categories are combined, Iraq still fell below several other issues in importance.

	<i>Rated as 'extremely important'</i>	<i>Most important issue affecting vote*</i>	
		Chosen from <u>Exit poll</u>	Chosen from <u>6-item list</u>
		%	%
War in Iraq	36%	30	17
Economy	40%	20	7
Values issues	36%	16	5
Corruption & scandals	42%	10	2
Terrorism	40%	8	1
Illegal immigration	30%	7	4
Other (vol.)	--	4	42
Don't know	--	<u>5</u>	<u>22</u>
		100	100

* Based on first issue choice only.

The exit poll showed that comparable numbers of voters rated several issues as extremely important. By contrast, when the Pew survey presented one group of voters with the same list of issues that appeared on the exit poll – and then asked “which one issue mattered *most* to you in deciding how you voted in the congressional election” – certain issues emerged as ranking much higher than others.

As was the case in pre-election surveys, Iraq was mentioned most often (by 30% as a first choice, and 53% as first or second choice), with the economy following at 20% (and 37% as a first or second choice). Values issues were close behind at 16% (and 27% as a first or second choice). Corruption was mentioned by only 10% as the top issue, though it did climb to 23% among first and second choices combined.

Another group of voters was asked to state in their own words what one issue mattered most in their vote; they were not presented with a list of issues. In this format responses were much more scattered, though again, Iraq topped this list with 17%. No other single issue was mentioned by more than 7% (the economy). Terrorism, which appeared more important than Iraq to voters in the exit poll questions, was mentioned as the top issue by only 1% of respondents.

Responses to the open-ended version of this question were much more dispersed than they were in 2004, when Pew also conducted a post-election experiment on the importance of issues in the vote. In the 2004 survey, 60% of respondents mentioned one of the top four issues that had been on the exit poll list that year (Iraq, moral values, the economy and jobs, and terrorism). This year, the top four issues in the open-ended format accounted for only 30% of the total. This difference may reflect the difference between a presidential election in which opinion is crystallized around two candidates and their positions on issues, and the widely scattered nature of the political campaigns waged in a legislative election.

	<i>Most important issue affecting vote</i>	
	<u>1st or 2nd of 6-item list</u>	<u>Open-end question</u>
	%	%
War in Iraq	53	21
Economy	37	11
Values issues	27	5
Corruption & scandals	23	2
Terrorism	21	2
Illegal immigration	20	4
Other (vol.)	5	45
Don't know	6	22

Partisans Far Apart in Issue Priorities

As is often the case, Democratic and Republican voters have very different views of which issues were most important. Iraq was chosen as the top issue by four-in-ten of those who voted for Democratic candidates (and by 66% as first or second choice). In contrast, just 16% of Republican voters picked Iraq (37% as a first or second choice). The economy was also more frequently mentioned as a top issue by Democratic voters (25%) than by Republicans (17%). Values issues were the top choice of Republican voters (30%), compared with just 8% of Democrats. Corruption and scandals registered with Democrats (14% picked it first), but not with Republican voters (4%). Terrorism (16%) and illegal immigration (11%) were both more important to Republican voters than to Democrats (2% each).

	<i>First choice from 6-item list</i>	
	<u>Rep voters</u>	<u>Dem voters</u>
	%	%
War in Iraq	16	40
Economy	17	25
Values issues	30	8
Corruption/scandals	4	14
Terrorism	16	2
Illegal immigration	11	2
Other (vol.)	2	5
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
Number of cases	(181)	(249)

There also are some notable demographic

differences in issue priorities. Catholics were far more likely than Protestants to cite the economy as the top issue (29% for Catholics, 18% for Protestants). White evangelical Protestants were far more likely than other groups to mention values issues such as same-sex marriage or abortion (39% vs. 16% for all voters), a pattern similar to that seen in 2004. Illegal immigration was the second ranked issue among older men; 18% mentioned it as the top issue, compared with just 7% of all voters. Just 2% of voters in the West mentioned illegal immigration as the top issue. The economy was the most frequently mentioned issue in the Midwest, with 30% citing it first (compared with 26% citing Iraq).

Democrats Motivated by Party Control

Party control of Congress mattered more to those who voted for Democratic candidates in their districts than it did to voters who supported Republican candidates. A majority of Republican voters (57%) say their vote for Congress was mostly a vote for the individual candidate in their district; just 29% say they were voting to help the Republican Party keep control of Congress. Among those who say they voted for a Democrat in their district, party control of Congress was as important a factor as evaluations of the individual candidates running for office.

	Republican <u>Voters</u>	Democratic <u>Voters</u>
<i>Vote was mostly...</i>	%	%
For individual candidate	57	40
For party control in Congress	29	38
In support/opposition of Bush	10	18
None of the above	2	2
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100

In addition, about one-in-five Democratic voters (18%) say their vote was meant to express opposition to Bush, compared with 10% of Republican voters who said their vote was in support of Bush. For more than half of Democratic voters (56%), national concerns – either partisan control of Congress or opposition to Bush – were factors in their votes. Just 39% of Republican voters cite such factors as influential in their votes.

Judging the Campaign

A strong majority of voters (72%) say they learned enough to make an informed choice between the candidates, compared with 24% who say they did not learn enough from the campaign. In this regard, the 2006 election received higher marks than previous midterm election campaigns. In December 1994, only 48% of registered voters said they had learned enough from the campaign, while half said they had not. Though less happy with the outcome of the election this year, Republicans were more likely than Democrats or independents to say they learned enough to make an informed choice (77% vs. 71% and 68%, respectively).

<i>During the campaign did you...</i>	<u>1990</u> %	<u>1994*</u> %	<u>1998</u> %	<u>2006</u> %
Learn enough to make an informed choice	60	48	63	72
Not learn enough	38	50	35	24
Don't know	<u>2</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100

* Based on registered voters.

On balance voters say they saw less discussion of issues in this campaign than in past elections: 49% say there was less discussion of the issues, 40% say there was more. Most Democrats (52%) believe there was more discussion of issues this year compared with past campaigns, but only about a third of Republicans and independents agree (32% each).

More Mudslinging This Year

Voters overwhelmingly believe this was a more negative campaign than usual. Nearly seven-in-ten voters (69%) say there was more mudslinging or negative campaigning this year than in past elections. Only 15% say there was less mudslinging. In November 2002, 51% of registered voters said that year's campaign had been more negative than past campaigns.

Republican voters were somewhat more critical of the campaign process this year than were Democrats or independents. Three-quarters of GOP voters say there was more negative campaigning this year than in the past. This compares with 67% of Democratic voters and 68% of independent voters.

<i>Compared with past elections this campaign had....</i>	---Voters---		
	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %
More negative campaigning	75	67	68
Less negative campaigning	12	17	16
Same amount (Vol.)	12	12	13
Don't know	<u>1</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100

Grading the Campaign

In addition to rating the campaign overall, voters were asked to grade certain key players in the campaign on their performance. Nearly seven-in-ten voters who gave an answer (68%) gave the voters a grade of A or B. This was significantly higher than the grades voters gave themselves after the 1998 midterm elections (50% A or B). This year's grades are similar to those for the 2004 presidential election, when 64% of voters gave themselves an A or B. Not surprisingly, Democrats are more pleased than Republicans with the voters' overall performance: 70% of Democrats vs. 50% of Republicans give the voters a grade of A or B.

The parties receive lower grades than the voters overall. Less than half of voters, give the Democratic Party an A or B for its performance (48%). These grades are similar to the ones the Democrats received in 1998, when they made slight gains in the House of Representatives but did not take control, and higher than the party's 2004 grades. Only 30% gave the Republican Party high marks for its performance this year, placing the GOP not only behind the Democrats but behind the press and the campaign consultants as well. These grades are much lower than the ones the GOP received after the 2004 election (51% A or B) and similar to those it received in 1998.

Voters Get Good Grades, GOP At Bottom of Class (based on those who could rate)			
<i>Percent giving a grade of A or B to...</i>	<u>1998</u> %	<u>2004</u> %	<u>2006</u> %
The voters	50	64	68
The pollsters	46	45	58
Democratic Party	52	37	48
The press	46	33	42
Campaign consultants	34	48	40
Republican Party	35	51	30

There is a large partisan gap on this issue as well. Democrats give their own party high marks for its performance. Seven-in-ten Democrats say their party deserves an A or B. Only 44% of Republicans say the same about the GOP's conduct in this election cycle. These ratings are clearly driven by the election outcome, as the Republicans gave themselves much higher marks after their 2004 victory than did Democrats in the wake of John Kerry's loss.

Among the outside observers of the campaign process, the pollsters out-poll the press and the campaign consultants in the eyes of the public. The pollsters received a grade of A or B from 58% of those who could rate them. These ratings are up significantly from 1998 and 2004, when pollsters got high marks from less than half of the public. The press received high ratings from 42% of those who could evaluate them. This is up moderately from the low ratings the press received for its performance in 2004. Campaign consultants are the least known to the public. More than one-in-four voters could not give consultants a rating. Among those who did rate the consultants, 40% gave them a grade of A or B.

Voting Goes Fairly Well

Eight-in-ten voters actually cast their votes on Election Day this year; the remaining 20% voted by absentee ballot or some other method. Older voters were more likely than younger ones to use an alternative voting method – 30% of voters ages 65 and older say they voted before Election Day, compared with 17% of young and middle-aged voters. Voting regulations vary widely across different regions of the country. In the West, where several states allow for early voting and voting-by-mail, 40% of the voters say they voted before Election Day. In the South, 22% voted prior to Election Day. Fewer voters in the Midwest (12%) and hardly any in the Northeast (5%) voted before the election.

	All <u>Voters</u>	North- <u>east</u>	Mid- <u>west</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
<i>Voted...</i>	%	%	%	%	%
On Election Day	80	95	88	78	59
Before Election Day	20	5	12	22	40
Don't know	*	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

Election Day voters encountered relatively few problems. Fewer than three-in-ten (28%) say they waited in line at their polling place. This is down significantly from the 2004 presidential election when 42% reported waiting in line. Among those who did wait in line, the vast majority waited less than 30 minutes.

Roughly half of voters (49%) report that they voted on a computerized voting machine at their polling place, while 41% voted on a paper ballot. Again there are major differences by region. Touch-screen voting is much more prevalent in the Northeast and South than it is in the Midwest and West.

Blacks More Skeptical of Accurate Vote Count

For the most part, voters are confident that their own vote was counted in the recent election. However, they remain skeptical about the accuracy of the vote count nationwide. Seven-in-ten voters say they are very confident that their vote was accurately counted, while only 39% of voters are very confident that the votes across the country were counted correctly. This year's voters express even less confidence in the system than voters did after the 2004 presidential election. At that time, 48% of voters said they were very confident that votes nationally were counted accurately.

Whites have more confidence than blacks in the voting system. More than seven-in-ten whites (72%) are very confident their own vote was counted accurately, compared with only 54% of blacks. In addition, blacks are twice as likely as whites to say they have little or no confidence that votes were tallied correctly nationwide (18% of blacks vs. 9% of whites). College graduates express more confidence in the accuracy of the system than do those without a college degree. This is true with regard to both individual votes and the national vote.

The way in which people voted has little impact on confidence in the system.

Voters who cast their vote by paper ballot or on a computer screen have similar views about the accuracy of the vote count. Similarly, absentee or early voters express about the same degree of confidence that their votes were counted accurately as do voters who cast ballots on Election Day.

	---Voters---		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>
	%	%	%
<i>How confident are you that your vote was accurately counted?</i>			
Very confident	70	72	54
Somewhat confident	23	21	38
Not too/not at all confident	5	4	5
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100
<i>How confident are you that votes nationwide were accurately counted?</i>			
Very confident	39	39	35
Somewhat confident	46	47	43
Not too/not at all confident	10	9	18
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100

Iraq: From Bad to Worse

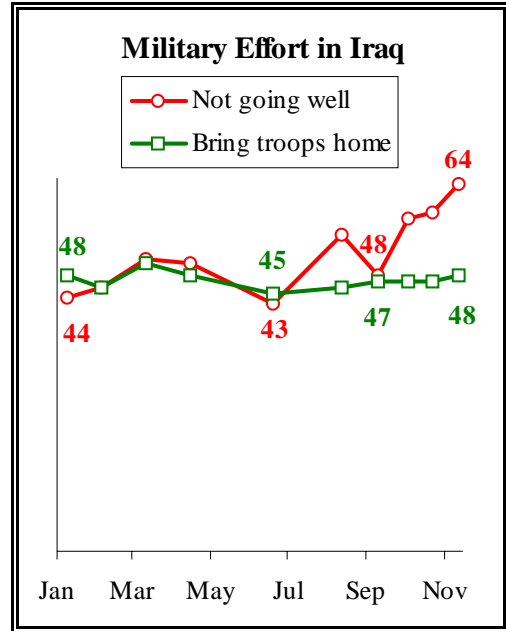
The number of Americans who believe the war in Iraq is going poorly is now at a record high – 64% say U.S. military efforts are not going too well or not well at all. Only about one-in-three (32%) say these efforts are going very or fairly well. As recently as September, the public was almost evenly split between those who felt the war was going well and those who saw it going poorly.

Moreover, public perceptions of progress on specific goals of the Iraq mission have also declined sharply. Since the beginning of the year, the number who say we are making progress in establishing a democracy in Iraq has fallen by 19 points, from 62% to 43%. Comparable declines are evident in perceptions of whether we are making progress in training Iraqi security forces (down 17 points), and in rebuilding the country’s infrastructure (16 points).

Less than half of the public thinks the U.S. is making progress on all of the seven goals included on the survey. Only about a third of Americans (34%) think we are making headway toward defeating the insurgents, while even fewer believe progress is being made on preventing a civil war (22%) and reducing Iraqi civilian casualties (20%).

Even More Pessimism about Iraq						
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Nov</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>Establishing a democracy</i>						
Making progress	62	50	51	55	47	43
Losing ground	26	38	38	35	39	42
No change/DK	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Training Iraqi security forces</i>						
Making progress	65	56	55	61	58	48
Losing ground	22	30	30	28	26	37
No change/DK	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Rebuilding the infrastructure</i>						
Making progress	59	53	55	52	46	43
Losing ground	22	29	26	23	34	36
No change/DK	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Preventing terrorist base for attacks</i>						
Making progress	52	42	44	49	45	39
Losing ground	33	44	43	39	40	49
No change/DK	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Defeating the insurgents</i>						
Making progress	46	36	40	48	41	34
Losing ground	38	51	46	36	45	52
No change/DK	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Preventing a civil war</i>						
Making progress	34	24	26	32	22	22
Losing ground	48	66	59	50	63	65
No change/DK	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Reducing Iraqi civilian casualties</i>						
Making progress	32	27	28	29	25	20
Losing ground	54	56	56	56	58	67
No change/DK	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100

Despite these more negative views about progress in Iraq, there has been no significant increase in the number of Americans calling for a troop withdrawal of U.S. forces. The public remains divided over whether the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible (48%) or keep troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized (46%).



This pattern – increasingly negative evaluations of the war, but no surge in support for bringing the troops home – is evident across partisan groups. Since September, Republicans, Democrats, and independents have all become significantly more likely to say the military effort in Iraq is not going well. Nonetheless, slightly fewer Republicans favor a troop withdrawal than two months ago. Solid, but stable, majorities of Democrats and independents favor bringing U.S. troops home as soon as possible.

As in previous Pew polls, most of those who support bringing troops home as soon as possible say the withdrawal should not be immediate, but rather should take place gradually over the next year or two. Even among Democrats, who overwhelmingly believe troops should be removed as soon as possible, just 21% say the withdrawal should be immediate.

**Iraq Situation Seen as Worsening,
But No Greater Support for Removing Troops**

	<i>Military effort not going well</i>			<i>Bring troops home</i>		
	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Chg</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Chg</u>
	%	%		%	%	
Total	48	64	+16	47	48	+1
Republicans	24	38	+14	24	19	-5
Democrats	67	80	+13	65	64	-1
Independents	52	69	+17	51	54	+3

Overall, there are signs that what might be considered the status quo position – that the U.S. should keep troops in Iraq and that there are currently enough troops there to do the job – is losing support. Just 20% support this position, down from 27% in April. At the same time, the number of people who believe we should send more troops has risen slightly, from 13% to 17%.

However, among Republicans the shift has been more pronounced: In April, 45% of Republicans felt we had enough troops in Iraq to do the job, while only 15% believed more troops were needed. Now Republicans are more evenly divided on this question, with 33% saying we have a sufficient number of troops and 27% calling for additional forces.

Little Support for Immediate Withdrawal				
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%	%
Bring troops home	48	19	64	54
<i>Remove all troops immediately</i>	16	4	21	21
<i>Gradually over next 1-2 years</i>	31	15	42	33
Keep troops in Iraq	46	76	32	40
<i>More troops needed</i>	17	27	14	14
<i>Have enough to do job</i>	20	33	12	19
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100

Although relatively few Americans favor an immediate withdrawal from Iraq, most are concerned that the U.S. might keep its troops there too long. When asked which concerns them more, that the U.S. will wait too long to withdraw troops from Iraq or that we will leave Iraq before a stable democracy is in place, a majority (55%) say their chief concern is that the U.S. will wait too long to withdraw. One-in-three Americans are more concerned about leaving before the creation of a stable democracy. Since Pew first asked this question in 2004, the public has consistently been more concerned about keeping troops there too long, rather than pulling the military out before a stable, democratic Iraq is established.

More Oppose Decision to Go to War

The number of Americans who believe the decision to use military force against Iraq was a mistake has risen to the highest level since the war began. Roughly half of the public (51%) now believes the U.S. made the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq, while 41% say it was the right decision.

Since September, the belief that the war was the wrong decision has grown among Democrats and independents. The percentage of Democrats who say the use of military force was the wrong decision has increased by seven points; among independents the change has been more dramatic (12 points). But among Republicans, just 16% feel the war was the wrong decision, little changed from two months ago (18%).

Independents Now See War as Wrong Decision			
	<i>War was 'wrong decision'</i>		
	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Chg</u>
	%	%	
Total	43	51	+8
Republicans	18	16	-2
Democrats	64	71	+7
Independents	46	58	+12

Pessimism about the Iraq war's impact on the war on terrorism is also at an all-time high. Just under half of the public (48%) now believes the Iraq war has hurt efforts to combat terrorism, while 37% think it has helped the war on terrorism. There also are significant partisan

divisions on this issue: While 68% of Democrats and 51% of independents say the Iraq war has damaged the war on terrorism, just 20% of Republicans share this view.

Still Some Hope for Success

A narrow majority of Americans (53%) still say that the U.S. will definitely succeed (12%) or probably succeed (41%) in achieving its goals in Iraq. That is down somewhat from September (57%), but little changed when compared with August (54%).

There is somewhat less optimism that the U.S. can succeed in establishing a stable democracy in Iraq. Fewer than half of Americans (46%) see the U.S. definitely or probably succeeding in achieving this goal while about as many (44%) think that the U.S. will probably or definitely fail.

Views about the current direction of the war are correlated with views about the likelihood of success: Those who say military efforts are going well are more likely to say the U.S. will ultimately succeed in its goals. However, even among those who feel the war is currently going poorly, 37% believe the U.S. will achieve its goals in Iraq.

Neither Party Has a Clear Vision for Iraq

Despite the Democrats’ electoral triumph, only about one-in-five Americans (22%) believe Democratic leaders have a clear plan for dealing with the situation in Iraq. That is about the same number who believe that President Bush has a clear plan for Iraq (19%).

The percentage saying Bush has a clear plan for addressing the situation in Iraq has declined over the past 14 months; in September 2005, 30% felt the president had a clear strategy for the war.

Notably, political partisans are highly skeptical of the clarity of their own party’s approach to Iraq. Just a third of Democrats say that Democratic leaders have a clear plan for dealing with Iraq; somewhat more Republicans, though still less than a majority (43%), say President Bush has a clear strategy for success.

Both Bush & Democrats Lack Clear Plans for Iraq				
	Sept	Dec	Mar	Nov
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>
<i>Does Bush have a clear plan?</i>	%	%	%	%
Yes	30	28	23	19
No	63	66	70	74
Don’t know	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Do Democrats have a clear plan?</i>				
Yes	18*	--	--	22
No	71	--	--	65
Don’t know	<u>11</u>	--	--	<u>13</u>
	100			100

* In 2005 question asked if Democratic leaders have a “clear alternative” for dealing with Iraq.

News Interest: Elections, Iraq

Nearly half of Americans (46%) say they paid very close attention to the outcome of the Nov. 7 elections. That is slightly higher than public interest in midterm elections in 1998 (42%) and 1994 (41%).

The election results drew very strong interest from Democrats, especially liberal Democrats. Fully seven-in-ten liberal Democrats followed the election outcome very closely, compared with 55% of conservative and moderate Democrats, and about half of conservative and moderate/liberal Republicans. Only about a third of independents (34%) said they paid very close attention to the election results.

Liberal Democrats Most Attentive to Election News

	<i>Followed stories "very closely"</i>				
	<u>Election outcome</u>	<u>Iraq situation</u>	<u>Economy</u>	<u>Rumsfeld resigns</u>	<u>Colorado minister</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
Total	46	44	31	30	15
Conserv Rep	48	43	35	32	12
Mod/Lib Rep	46	47	32	33	13
Independent	34	39	25	22	14
Cons/Mod Dem	55	49	38	35	17
Liberal Dem	70	53	31	45	22

The current survey finds partisan and ideological differences in attentiveness to other news stories. More than half of liberal Democrats (53%) said they followed news about the situation in Iraq, compared with 43% of conservative Republicans. In addition, 45% of liberal Democrats paid very close attention to news of Donald Rumsfeld's resignation, more than in any other partisan group.

There was relatively little public interest in reports about a Colorado minister who stepped down amid reports of a homosexual affair. But this story did attract more interest among liberal Democrats (22%) than any other political groups. Just 12% of conservative Republicans – and an identical percentage of white evangelical Protestants – tracked this story very closely.

Campaign News Sources

Roughly seven-in-ten voters (69%) say they got most of their campaign news from television, and more voters relied on cable news (30%) than either network news (24%) or local news (22%). More than four-in-ten voters (44%) say they got most of their news from newspapers, while 19% cited the internet as their top campaign news source and 18% said radio.

Among individual TV news outlets, roughly the same numbers of voters say they get most of their news from Fox News Channel as from CNN (16% vs. 13%). About one-in-ten relied mostly on NBC News (11%), ABC News (11%), and CBS News (9%) for coverage of the campaign.

The partisan differences in the audiences for cable news sources, which were evident in Pew’s news consumption surveys in 2004 and 2006, are particularly apparent when it comes to voters’ main source for election news. Roughly three-in-ten Republicans (31%) say they get most of their news on the election from Fox News, compared with 13% of independents and just 8% of Democrats. By contrast, many more Democrats than Republicans get most of their campaign news from CNN (14% of Democrats vs. 7% of Republicans).

The internet is an important source of campaign news for men, particularly men under age 50, and well-educated people. More than a third of men under age 50 (35%) say they got most of their campaign news from the internet; about the same percentage say they relied mostly on newspapers (34%). About three-in-ten college graduates say they got most of their campaign news from the internet compared with just 12% of those with no more than a high school education.

Overall, 32% of voters who got most of their campaign news on the internet say they went to television news websites such as MSNBC.com or CNN.com. Nearly as many (28%) say they went to the news pages of such sites as Google or Yahoo. And 20% of voters who relied mostly on the internet for campaign news went to newspaper websites, such as the New York Times and Washington Post.

How Did You Get Most of Your Campaign News?*	
	All Voters %
Television	69
Cable (Net)	30
Fox News	16
CNN	13
MSNBC	5
CNBC	2
Network (Net)	24
NBC News	11
ABC News	11
CBS News	9
Local TV news	22
Newspapers	44
Internet	19
Radio	18
Magazines	3

*Numbers add to more than 100% because voters could list up to two primary sources.

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 1,479 adults, 18 years of age or older, from November 9-12, 2006. 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 *registered voters* (N=1,191), the sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on *voters* (N=997), the sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on Form 1 or Form 2 voters (each roughly N=500) the sampling error is plus or minus 5 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.

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
Carolyn Funk, Richard Wike and Kim Parker, Senior Project Directors
Nilanthi Samaranayake, Survey and Data Manager
Peyton Craighill, April Clark and Juliana Horowitz, Research Associates
Rob Suls, Research Analyst
James Albrightain, Executive Assistant

Who Should Take the Lead in Solving Problems - the President or Congressional Leaders?

	---December 1994---*				---Mid November 2006---				(N)
	Republican				Democratic				
	President <u>Clinton</u> %	Congressional <u>Leadership</u> %	Both/ <u>Neither</u> %	DK/ <u>Ref</u> %	President <u>Bush</u> %	Congressional <u>Leadership</u> %	Both/ <u>Neither</u> %	DK/ <u>Ref</u> %	
<i>Total</i>	39	43	10	8=100	29	51	14	6=100	(1479)
Gender									
Male	38	45	10	6	31	50	15	4	(699)
Female	41	39	10	10	29	51	12	7	(780)
Race									
White	35	46	11	8	33	46	15	6	(1219)
Non-white	61	22	7	9	16	68	9	8	(241)
Age and Gender									
White Men	36	48	11	5	34	47	16	3	(568)
White Women	35	44	11	11	33	46	14	8	(651)
Age									
18-49	39	44	9	7	30	53	12	5	(722)
50-64	39	39	13	9	29	49	16	7	(396)
65+	41	39	10	11	28	45	18	8	(333)
Age and Gender									
Men under 50	37	46	10	7	31	53	13	3	(357)
Women under 50	42	42	9	7	30	53	10	7	(365)
Men 50+	40	44	11	5	31	44	18	7	(334)
Women 50+	40	34	12	13	27	49	16	7	(395)
Education									
College graduate	39	43	13	5	33	43	21	3	(530)
Some college	39	42	11	7	30	51	12	7	(381)
High School or less	39	42	9	10	28	55	11	7	(561)
Household income									
\$75,000 +	33	46	16	5	38	42	17	4	(393)
\$50 to 74,999	39	46	10	5	37	43	18	3	(229)
\$30 to 49,999	42	42	9	7	27	57	11	5	(282)
<\$30,000	41	40	10	9	21	59	12	8	(370)

Question: Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems — President Bush, or the Democratic congressional leaders?

*In December 1994, the item was worded: "... President Clinton, or the Republican congressional leaders?"

**Data Note: Sample sizes shown are based on the current survey. Figures may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

	---December 1994---*				---Mid November 2006---				(N)
	President <u>Clinton</u>	Republican Congressional <u>Leadership</u>	Both/ <u>Neither</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>	President <u>Bush</u>	Democratic Congressional <u>Leadership</u>	Both/ <u>Neither</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<i>Total</i>	39	43	10	8=100	29	51	14	6=100	(1479)
<i>Party Identification</i>									
Republican	16	69	10	5	65	15	17	3	(416)
Democrat	68	14	10	8	9	79	9	3	(502)
Independent	38	40	11	11	25	53	15	8	(451)
<i>Ideology</i>									
Conservative	--	--	--	--	46	35	14	5	(541)
Moderate	--	--	--	--	22	57	14	7	(626)
Liberal	--	--	--	--	14	72	10	4	(239)
<i>Party & Ideology</i>									
Conserv Repub	--	--	--	--	69	11	19	1	(274)
Mod/Lib Repub	--	--	--	--	55	25	14	6	(133)
Conserv/Mod Dem	--	--	--	--	10	78	9	3	(357)
Liberal Democrat	--	--	--	--	7	83	9	1	(130)
<i>Religion</i>									
Protestant	37	45	10	8	34	44	16	7	(861)
White evangelical	28	53	10	9	46	31	15	7	(330)
White mainline	37	45	10	7	29	45	20	6	(361)
Catholic	40	41	11	8	27	60	9	4	(333)
White, non-Hisp.	37	44	11	8	32	54	10	5	(261)
Secular	45	35	10	11	15	64	14	7	(167)
<i>Attend church</i>									
Weekly	--	--	--	--	36	42	15	7	(598)
Monthly/Yearly	--	--	--	--	27	57	13	3	(448)
Seldom/Never	--	--	--	--	25	54	13	7	(411)
<i>Region</i>									
Northeast	40	36	12	12	28	51	15	7	(292)
Midwest	38	46	9	7	27	52	12	9	(342)
South	39	43	10	8	31	50	14	5	(553)
West	40	43	11	6	31	50	14	5	(292)
<i>Community</i>									
Rural	--	--	--	--	32	48	12	8	(341)
Suburban	--	--	--	--	32	48	15	5	(729)
Urban	--	--	--	--	24	57	13	6	(409)
<i>Labor household</i>									
Yes	47	35	11	8	25	61	9	5	(180)
No	38	44	10	8	30	49	15	6	(1299)

Will Congressional Leaders Be Successful?

	---December 1994---*				---Mid November 2006---				<i>Success Change</i>	<i>(N)</i>
	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%		
<i>Total</i>	62	24	4	10=100	59	22	6	13=100	-3	(1479)
<i>Gender</i>										
Male	62	27	5	6	54	28	8	11	-8	(699)
Female	61	21	3	14	65	16	4	15	4	(780)
<i>Race</i>										
White	63	23	4	10	58	24	6	12	-5	(1219)
Non-white	54	30	4	12	65	17	5	14	11	(241)
<i>Age and Gender</i>										
White Men	64	27	4	5	54	30	8	9	-10	(568)
White Women	62	20	4	14	62	18	4	15	0	(651)
<i>Age</i>										
18-49	63	26	3	8	62	23	4	11	-1	(722)
50-64	57	26	6	12	58	22	8	12	1	(396)
65+	63	16	6	15	56	19	8	16	-7	(333)
<i>Age and Gender</i>										
Men under 50	62	28	4	6	56	28	6	10	-6	(357)
Women under 50	64	24	2	10	68	17	3	13	4	(365)
Men 50+	62	25	6	6	50	27	11	12	-12	(334)
Women 50+	57	18	6	19	63	16	6	16	6	(395)
<i>Education</i>										
College graduate	60	26	5	9	56	26	5	13	-4	(530)
Some college	61	25	4	10	60	20	7	13	-1	(381)
High School or less	62	23	3	11	61	21	6	13	-1	(561)
<i>Household income</i>										
\$75,000 +	55	28	4	12	57	27	6	10	2	(393)
\$50 to 74,999	61	27	6	6	51	29	7	12	-10	(229)
\$30 to 49,999	65	24	4	7	64	19	6	11	-1	(282)
<\$30,000	62	25	3	10	68	16	4	13	6	(370)

Question: Generally, do you think Democratic leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

*In December 1994, the item was worded: “.. Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?”

**Data Note: Sample sizes shown are based on the current survey. Figures may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

	---December 1994---*				---Mid November 2006---				Success Change	(N)
	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%		
<i>Total</i>	62	24	4	10=100	59	22	6	13=100	-3	(1479)
Party Identification										
Republican	76	12	5	8	45	38	5	13	-31	(416)
Democrat	54	29	4	13	75	12	5	8	21	(502)
Independent	54	34	3	9	59	21	7	13	5	(451)
Ideology										
Conservative	--	--	--	--	57	27	5	12	--	(541)
Moderate	--	--	--	--	62	18	6	14	--	(626)
Liberal	--	--	--	--	63	20	9	9	--	(239)
Party & Ideology										
Conserv Repub	--	--	--	--	45	39	5	11	--	(274)
Mod/Lib Repub	--	--	--	--	45	35	5	15	--	(133)
Conserv/Mod Dem	--	--	--	--	77	10	5	8	--	(357)
Liberal Democrat	--	--	--	--	67	18	7	8		(130)
Religion										
Protestant	62	24	4	10	58	23	6	13	-4	(861)
White evangelical	65	20	4	11	57	25	5	13	-8	(330)
White mainline	63	25	4	8	55	25	7	13	-8	(361)
Catholic	65	20	4	11	68	18	4	11	3	(333)
White, non-Hisp.	65	20	4	11	68	19	3	11	3	(261)
Secular	57	33	1	9	55	27	6	11	-2	(167)
Attend church										
Weekly	--	--	--	--	59	22	6	13	--	(598)
Monthly/Yearly	--	--	--	--	64	20	6	11	--	(448)
Seldom/Never	--	--	--	--	57	24	6	13	--	(411)
Region										
Northeast	63	21	5	10	62	20	6	13	-1	(292)
Midwest	61	23	4	13	62	19	5	15	1	(342)
South	61	27	4	8	57	25	6	12	-4	(553)
West	62	23	4	11	59	22	7	12	-3	(292)
Community										
Rural	--	--	--	--	60	21	4	16	--	(341)
Suburban	--	--	--	--	59	23	6	13	--	(729)
Urban	--	--	--	--	61	22	6	12	--	(409)
Labor household										
Yes	53	29	6	12	64	22	4	10	11	(180)
No	63	23	4	10	59	22	6	13	-4	(1299)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
NOVEMBER 2006 POST-ELECTION SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
November 9 - 12, 2006
N=1,479

ROTATE Q.1 AND Q.2

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Mid-November, 2006	32	58	10=100	Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100
Early October, 2006	37	53	10=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
September, 2006	37	53	10=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2001	51	32	17=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100				

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8=100
Early October, 2006	30	63	7=100
July, 2006	30	65	5=100
May, 2006 ¹	29	65	6=100
March, 2006	32	63	5=100
January, 2006	34	61	5=100
Late November, 2005	34	59	7=100
Early October, 2005	29	65	6=100
July, 2005	35	58	7=100
Late May, 2005	39	57	4=100
February, 2005	38	56	6=100
January, 2005	40	54	6=100
December, 2004	39	54	7=100
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6=100
July, 2004	38	55	7=100
May, 2004	33	61	6=100
Late February, 2004	39	55	6=100
Early January, 2004	45	48	7=100
December, 2003	44	47	9=100
October, 2003	38	56	6=100
August, 2003	40	53	7=100
April, 2003 ²	50	41	9=100
January, 2003	44	50	6=100
November, 2002	41	48	11=100
September, 2002	41	55	4=100
Late August, 2002	47	44	9=100
May, 2002	44	44	12=100
March, 2002	50	40	10=100
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100
June, 2001	43	52	5=100
March, 2001	47	45	8=100
February, 2001	46	43	11=100
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100

1 The September 2002 and May 2006 trends are from a Pew Global Attitudes Project survey.

2 Asked April 8, 2003 only; N=395.

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	5=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
Late February, 1991 (<i>Gallup</i>)	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (<i>RVs</i>)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

Q.3 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month, tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE.] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?”]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
a. News about the current situation in Iraq	44	38	12	6	*=100
September, 2006	33	43	14	8	2=100
August, 2006	41	39	12	7	1=100
June, 2006	37	43	13	6	1=100
May, 2006	42	35	15	7	1=100
April, 2006	43	36	13	7	1=100
March, 2006	43	38	12	6	1=100
February, 2006	39	42	12	6	1=100
January, 2006	40	40	12	7	1=100
December, 2005	45	38	11	5	1=100
Early November, 2005	41	40	13	6	*=100
Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100

Q.3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 ³	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 ⁴	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100
b. News about the outcome of the elections	46	33	11	10	*=100
November, 1998	42	31	14	12	1=100
December, 1994	41	36	13	10	*=100
c. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	31	40	17	11	1=100
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1=100
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1=100
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1=100
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*=100
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2=100
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1=100
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1=100

3 From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

4 From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq." In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

Q.3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1=100
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1=100
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*=100
January, 2003	40	35	13	11	1=100
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1=100
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1=100
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1=100
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2=100
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1=100
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1=100
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0=100
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1=100
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1=100
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2=100
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*=100
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*=100
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1=100
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*=100
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1=100
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*=100
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1=100
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1=100
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*=100
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1=100
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*=100
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1=100
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*=100
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*=100
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1=100
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*=100
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1=100
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*=100
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*=100
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*=100
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1=100
d. The resignation of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld	30	30	21	18	1=100
e. The Colorado minister who stepped down amid allegations of a homosexual affair	15	27	25	32	1=100

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN REGIST, ASK:

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

78 Yes, registered
 75 Absolutely certain
 3 Chance registration has lapsed
 * Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 21 No, not registered
 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

IF REGISTERED (REGICERT=1) ASK:

Q.4 Many people did not have the time or opportunity to go out and vote this past Tuesday. Were you able to vote in this year's election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

		Nov <u>2002</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>
80	Yes, voted	75	85	82
20	No, did not vote	25	15	18
*	Don't know/Refused	*	0	0
100		100	100	100

IF '2,' NO, DID NOT VOTE IN Q.4, OR IF NOT REGISTERED (REGIST=2,9 OR REGICERT=2,9), ASK Q.5, THEN SKIP TO Q.18:

Q.5 Which one of these statements best describes you...? (READ)

BASED ON THOSE WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED OR DID NOT VOTE [N=481]:

		Nov <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>
29	I wish I had voted in the elections this past week	35	36
16	I'm glad I didn't vote	13	13
47	I have mixed feelings about not voting	40	45
8	Don't know/Refused	12	6
100		100	100

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.6 In the race for Congress in your district, did you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		Nov <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>
36	Republican	41	39
50	Democrat	43	47
2	Other (VOL.)	5	3
2	Don't remember (VOL.)	1	9
1	Did not vote for Congress (VOL.)	2	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>=</u>
100		100	100

IF '1' REPUBLICAN IN Q.6, ASK [N=372]:

Q.7 Was your vote [READ AND RANDOMIZE]?

57	Mostly a vote for the individual candidate in your district
29	Mostly a vote to help the Republican Party keep control of Congress
10	Mostly a vote to express support for President Bush
2	None of the above (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

IF '2' DEMOCRATIC IN Q.6, ASK [N=480]:

Q.8 Was your vote [READ AND RANDOMIZE]?

40	Mostly a vote for the individual candidate in your district
38	Mostly a vote to help the Democratic Party win control of Congress
18	Mostly a vote to express opposition to President Bush
2	None of the above (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4 AND FORM 1 ONLY, ASK:

Q.9F1 What one issue mattered most to you in deciding how you voted in the congressional election? [**OPEN
END: ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES; IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE GIVEN, PROBE ONCE
FOR ADDITIONAL**]

BASED ON FORM 1 VOTERS [N=499]:

		Nov <u>2004</u> ⁵
21	Iraq/The war	27
11	Economy/Jobs	14
6	Anti-Incumbent/Party change in Congress	-
5	Anti-Bush/Anti-Republican	-
4	Immigration	-
4	Don't change course	2
3	Taxes	1
3	Education	1
3	Changing the direction of the country	2
2	Corruption/Honesty/Integrity	5
2	Abortion	3
2	Terrorism/Security	9
2	Health care	3
1	Moral values	9
1	Environment	1
1	Strength/leadership	2
1	Gay marriage/marriage	2
1	Candidate's religiosity/morals	2
1	Stem cell	1
1	Foreign policy	2
*	Minimum Wage	-
*	Social Security	1
9	Other-Issues	10
11	Other-Non-Issues	9
22	DK/Nothing/Everything	5

5 In November 2004 the question asked: "What one issue mattered most to you in deciding how you voted for president?"
Results based on Bush/Kerry voters only.

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4 AND FORM 2 ONLY, ASK:

Q.10F2 Of the following six issues, which ONE issue mattered MOST to you in deciding how you voted in the congressional election? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

IF ANSWER GIVEN (1-8 IN Q.10F2) AND IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.11F2 What would you say was the SECOND most important issue to you? **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.10F2 EXCLUDING ITEM GIVEN IN Q.10F2]**

BASED ON FORM 2 VOTERS [N=498]:

<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Combined</u>	
7	13	20	Illegal immigration
30	23	53	War in Iraq
8	13	21	Terrorism
20	17	37	The economy
16	12	27	Values issues such as same-sex marriage or abortion
10	13	23	Corruption and scandals in government
5	2	5	Other (VOL. DO NOT READ)
<u>6</u>	<u>7⁶</u>	6	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	100		

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.12 Most people cast their votes on Election Day this year, but many were able to vote before Election Day by absentee ballot or what is called early voting. What about you? Did you vote ON Election Day or BEFORE Election DAY by absentee ballot, vote by mail or through early voting?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		<u>Nov</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2002</u>
80	On Election Day	80	85
20	By Absentee or other method	20	15
*	Don't know/Refused	*	*
100		100	100

IF VOTED ON ELECTION DAY (Q.12=1), ASK:

Q.13 Did you have to wait in line at your polling place or not?

IF YES, WAIT IN LINE (Q.13=1), ASK:

Q.14 How long did you wait to vote?

BASED ON ELECTION DAY VOTERS [N=783]:

		<u>Nov</u> <u>2004</u>
28	Yes, waited	42
14	Under 15 minutes	13
7	15-29 minutes	11
3	30-59 minutes	10
2	1 hour to under 2 hours	6
1	2 hours or more	2
1	Don't know/Refused	0
72	No, didn't wait	58
<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>
100		100

6 Includes Don't Know/Refused responses for first and second most important issue to a respondent's vote in the congressional election.

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.15 [IF Q13=1 READ: Other than waiting in line...] Did you have any problems or difficulties voting this year, or not?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

4 Yes, SPECIFY _____
 96 No
 * Don't know/Refused
 100

IF VOTED ON ELECTION DAY (Q.12=1), ASK:

Q.16 When you voted, did your polling place provide paper ballots where you marked your selection on a piece of paper, or were there voting machines where you entered your selections using a computer screen?

BASED ON ELECTION DAY VOTERS [N=783]:

41 Paper ballots
 49 Computer screen
 5 Other (VOL.)
 5 Both (VOL.)
 * Don't know/Refused
 100

In the election...

ROTATE Q.17 AND Q.18

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.17 How confident are you that your vote was accurately counted? [READ]

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

Based on Registered Voters

Prior to an Election

	Nov <u>2004</u>	Early Nov <u>2006</u> ⁷	Early Oct <u>2006</u>	Mid- Oct <u>2004</u>
70 Very confident	68	57	58	62
23 Somewhat confident	24	28	29	26
3 Not too confident	4	8	9	7
2 Not at all confident	3	4	3	4
<u>2</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100	100	100

7 In Early November 2006, Early October 2006, and Mid-October 2004 the question was worded "How confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted in the upcoming election?"

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

Q.18 How confident are you that the votes across the country were accurately counted? **[READ]**

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		Nov <u>2004</u>
39	Very confident	48
46	Somewhat confident	37
7	Not too confident	7
3	Not at all confident	7
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100		100

IF '1' VOTED IN Q.4, ASK:

Q.19 Did you, yourself, volunteer any of your time to help one of the election campaigns this fall or not?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		Nov <u>2004</u>	Based on Registered Voters Late Oct <u>2006</u>
9	Yes	9	5
91	No	91	95
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>
100		100	100

Q.20 Did you, yourself contribute money to a campaign in support of a candidate in the elections this fall, or not?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		Nov <u>2004</u>	Based on Registered Voters Late Oct <u>2006</u>
12	Yes	9	10
87	No	91	90
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>
100		100	100

ASK REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [REGICERT=1]:

Q.21 During this campaign, did you feel you learned enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice between the candidates, OR did you find it difficult to choose because you felt you did not learn enough from the campaign?

		Based on Registered Voters							
		Nov <u>2004</u> ⁸	Nov <u>2000</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1996</u>	Nov <u>1992</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>	Nov <u>1988</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
72	Learned enough to make an informed choice	86	83	63	75	77	60	59	48
24	Did not learn enough from the campaign	13	15	35	23	20	38	39	50
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

8 In November 2004 the question was asked only of voters about making a choice between Presidential candidates George W. Bush and John Kerry.

Q.22 Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, or Fail to describe the quality of their work. Looking back over the campaign, what grade would you give to each of the following groups for the way they conducted themselves in the campaign? First... (**READ AND RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS**)

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	The press	12	28	26	15	16	3=100
	November, 2004	8	24	32	19	16	1=100
	November, 2000	6	22	31	18	20	3=100
	November, 1998	10	34	31	11	9	5=100
	November, 1996	6	22	33	19	18	2=100
	November, 1992	11	25	29	16	15	4=100
	November, 1990	21	44	23	6	3	3=100
	November, 1988	8	22	33	19	16	2=100
b.	The voters	29	32	20	6	3	10=100
	November, 2004	30	30	20	7	8	5=100
	November, 2000	22	31	25	7	4	11=100
	November, 1998	17	30	28	13	6	6=100
	November, 1996	12	27	29	13	10	9=100
	November, 1992	32	29	20	5	5	9=100
	November, 1988	18	31	28	10	7	6=100

BASED ON FORM 1 VOTERS [N=499]:

c.F1	The Republican Party	7	22	36	16	15	4=100
	November, 2004	17	33	24	12	12	2=100
	November, 2000	10	35	31	10	9	5=100
	November, 1998	7	27	32	18	12	4=100
	November, 1996	4	23	39	18	13	3=100
	November, 1992	4	25	34	18	15	4=100
	November, 1990	10	35	33	10	6	6=100
	November, 1988	11	34	31	12	10	2=100
d.F1	The Democratic Party	15	31	27	14	9	4=100
	November, 2004	9	28	37	16	9	1=100
	November, 2000	14	33	30	11	8	4=100
	November, 1998	16	34	30	9	7	4=100
	November, 1996	12	36	29	11	9	3=100
	November, 1992	18	40	26	6	6	4=100
	November, 1990	16	35	32	8	4	5=100
	November, 1988	7	26	45	13	7	2=100

BASED ON FORM 2 VOTERS [N=498]:

e.F2	The pollsters	20	29	25	7	4	15=100
	November, 2004	16	26	33	9	8	8=100
	November, 2000	7	22	28	15	14	14=100
	November, 1998	12	28	30	12	6	12=100
	November, 1996	11	23	29	11	10	16=100
	November, 1992	15	31	27	9	6	12=100
	November, 1990	13	32	28	7	5	15=100
	November, 1988	13	29	29	12	11	6=100

Q.22 CONTINUED...

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
f.F2 The campaign consultants	6	24	27	11	6	26=100
November, 2004	7	31	29	9	5	19=100
November, 2000	5	26	29	8	5	27=100
November, 1998	5	22	34	12	6	21=100
November, 1996	4	18	33	11	8	26=100
November, 1992	7	26	31	7	4	25=100
November, 1990	7	23	28	9	5	28=100
November, 1988	5	20	37	14	8	16=100

ASK REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [REGICERT=1]:

Q.23 Compared to past elections, would you say there was more discussion of issues in this campaign or less discussion of issues?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

	<u>Nov</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1998</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1996</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1992</u>
40 More	47	46	30	25	59
49 Less	42	36	61	65	34
7 Same (VOL.)	7	13	7	6	4
<u>4</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.24 Compared to past elections, would you say there was MORE mudslinging or negative campaigning in this campaign or LESS mudslinging or negative campaigning in this campaign?

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

	<u>Nov</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1998</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1996</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>1992</u>	Based on Registered Voters		
						<u>Early</u> <u>Nov</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Early</u> <u>Nov</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>Late</u> <u>Oct</u> <u>1998</u>
69 More	72	34	68	49	68	65	51	52
15 Less	14	46	21	36	16	14	24	23
13 Same (VOL.)	12	16	10	12	14	16	20	20
<u>3</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	11	3	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.25 How did you get most of your news about the election campaigns in your state and district? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ONE ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.25, ASK:

Q.26 Did you get most of your news about the campaign from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 8 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON VOTERS [N=997]:

		Nov <u>2002</u>	Nov <u>1996</u>	Nov <u>1992</u>
69	Television	66	72	82
	22 Local news			
	11 NBC Network news			
	11 ABC Network news			
	9 CBS Network news			
	16 The Fox News channel			
	13 CNN Cable news			
	5 MSNBC Cable news			
	2 CNBC Cable news			
	4 Don't Know/Refused			
44	Newspapers	39	60	57
19	Internet	7	3	--
18	Radio	13	19	12
3	Magazines	1	11	9
6	Other	5	4	6
1	Can't say/Don't know/Refused	1	1	1

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '5' INTERNET AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.25, ASK Q.27:

Q.27 Did you get most of your online news about the campaign from [RANDOMIZE AND READ, ALWAYS ASK ITEM 4 LAST. ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON VOTERS ONLINE FOR CAMPAIGN NEWS [N=185]:

- 28 Internet news sites such as Google news or Yahoo news
- 20 Newspaper websites such as the New York Times.com or Washington Post.com
- 32 Television news websites such as MSNBC.com or CNN.com, OR
- 31 Other kinds of internet news sources
- 2 Don't know/Refused

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

On another subject...

Q.28 Would you like to see MORE people from different walks of life running for high political office, or do you think it's more important to have people with a lot of political experience running for office?

		Nov <u>1998</u>
57	More people from different walks of life	60
33	Important to have people with experience	31
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100		100

On another subject...

Q.29 All things considered, how satisfied were you with the outcome of the elections in your state — very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

		Nov <u>1998</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>
28	Very satisfied	29	29	25
44	Somewhat satisfied	50	41	48
12	Not very satisfied	11	16	12
11	Not at all satisfied	6	10	10
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.30 Are you happy or unhappy that the Democratic Party won control of Congress?

		<i>Republican Party</i>		
		Dec <u>2002⁹</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
60	Happy	48	47	57
24	Unhappy	34	32	31
<u>16</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.31 Thinking about the Democratic Party, who do YOU think of as the leader of the Democratic Party these days? [SINGLE RESPONSE, DO NOT READ OPTIONS. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE; ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]

		April <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>
12	Hillary Clinton	16	15
9	Nancy Pelosi	1	1
5	Bill Clinton	4	11
3	Howard Dean	3	3
2	Barack Obama	2	4
2	John Kerry	3	8
2	Ted Kennedy	7	n/a
1	Joseph Lieberman	1	n/a
1	Harry Reid	1	1
*	John Edwards	2	2
*	Joseph Biden	1	3
4	Other [SPECIFY: _____]	5	9 ¹⁰
9	(VOL. DO NOT READ) Nobody is	30	13
<u>51</u>	(VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>
100		100	100

9 In December 2002 the question was worded: "In general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Senate?" In November 1998 the question was worded: "Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Congress?" In December 1994 question was worded: "Generally, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican party won control of the U.S. Congress?"

10 In February 2006, the "Other" category did not offer a SPECIFY option, meaning interviewers were not instructed to enter responses that were not included on a list of pre-coded names. Ted Kennedy and Joe Lieberman were therefore not coded.

Q.32 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems — President Bush, or the Democratic congressional leaders?

		Nov 1998 ¹¹	Sept 1998	Feb 1997	Nov 1996	March 1996	April 1995	March 1995	Feb 1995	Dec 1994
29	President Bush	49	47	48	45	47	48	40	40	39
51	Democratic Congressional leaders	26	32	29	30	36	36	40	38	43
14	Both/Neither (VOL.)	16	12	14	19	9	12	10	16	10
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.33 As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Democratic congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

		<i>Republican congressional leaders</i>
		Dec 1994
50	Approve	52
21	Disapprove	28
<u>29</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>20</u>
100		100

Q.34 Generally, do you think Democratic leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

		Sept 1995 ¹²	Dec 1994
59	Successful	54	62
22	Unsuccessful	31	24
6	Will get some (VOL.)	n/a	4
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>
100		100	100

ROTATE Q.35 AND Q.36

Q.35 Next year should the Democratic leaders in Washington... (READ)

		Dec 1994 ¹³
55	Try as best they can to work with George W. Bush to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters	69
	OR	
36	Should they stand up to George W. Bush on issues that are important to Democratic supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?	23
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<u>8</u>
100		100

11 Trends from 1998 and earlier refer to President Clinton and Republican congressional leaders. November 1996 trend is based on voters.

12 In September 1995 and December 1994, the question asked about "Republican leaders in Congress." In September 1995, the question was worded "In general, would you say the Republican leaders in Congress have been successful or unsuccessful so far this year in getting their programs passed into law?"

13 In December 1994, the answer categories referred to "Republican leaders" rather than "George W. Bush." Results also exist for November 2004 and November 1996, but questions were not asked of general public.

Q.36 Next year should the Republican leaders in Washington... **(READ)**

71 Try as best they can to work with Democratic leaders to accomplish things,
even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters?
OR
Should they stand up to the Democrats on issues that are important to
Republican supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?
20 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**
9
100

Q.37 Do you think relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will get better in the coming year, get worse, or stay about the same as they are now?

29 Get better
20 Get worse
46 Stay about the same
5 Don't know/Refused
100

And a different kind of question...

ROTATE Q.38 AND Q.39

Q.38 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the REPUBLICAN nomination for President in 2008. AFTER I READ ALL THE NAMES, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for President. **(PROBE IF NECESSARY: Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?) (READ AND RANDOMIZE)**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

		Aug <u>2006</u> ¹⁴	Late March <u>2005</u> ¹⁵
29	John McCain	26	34
26	Rudy Giuliani	24	26
17	Condoleezza Rice	18	17
4	Newt Gingrich	5	--
4	Mitt Romney	3	--
3	Bill Frist	2	4
1	Sam Brownback	1	--
*	Other (VOL.)		
6	None (VOL.)		
<u>10</u>	DK/Ref		
100			

14 In August 2006, the candidate list also included George Allen.

15 In Late March 2005, the candidate list only included John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Condoleezza Rice, Jeb Bush, and Bill Frist.

Q.39 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the DEMOCRATIC nomination for President in 2008. AFTER I READ ALL THE NAMES, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Democratic Party's candidate for President. (**PROBE IF NECESSARY:** Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?) (**READ AND RANDOMIZE**)

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

		Aug <u>2006</u> ¹⁶	Late March <u>2005</u> ¹⁷
28	Hillary Clinton	29	32
20	Barack Obama	--	--
11	John Edwards	11	17
8	Al Gore	13	--
7	John Kerry	9	14
5	Joe Biden	6	--
3	Bill Richardson	5	10
1	Russ Feingold	3	--
1	Other (VOL.)		
10	None (VOL.)		
6	DK/Ref		
100			

NO QUESTIONS 40-41

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.42 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	41	51	8=100
Late October, 2006	43	47	10=100
Early October, 2006	45	47	8=100
Early September, 2006	49	43	8=100
August, 2006	45	46	9=100
July, 2006	44	50	6=100
June, 2006	49	44	7=100
April, 2006	47	46	7=100
March, 2006	45	49	6=100
February, 2006	51	44	5=100
January, 2006	45	47	8=100
December, 2005	47	48	5=100
Late October, 2005	48	45	7=100
Early October, 2005	44	50	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (RVs)	48	41	11=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100

16 In August 2006, the candidate list also included Mark Warner.

17 In Late March 2005, the candidate list only included Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, John Kerry, Bill Richardson, and Howard Dean.

Q.42 CONTINUED...

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>8=100</i>
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	25	6=100
March 25-27, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 23-24, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 20-22, 2003	71	22	7=100
Late January, 1991	77	15	8=100

Q.43 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? [READ IN ORDER]

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	6	26	34	30	4=100
Late October, 2006	5	30	34	25	6=100
Early October, 2006	8	29	33	25	5=100
Early September, 2006	8	39	28	20	5=100
August, 2006	8	33	32	23	4=100
June, 2006	16	37	25	18	4=100
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3=100
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6=100
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3=100
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5=100
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3=100
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100

Q.43 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6=100
Early September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4=100
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3=100
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3=100
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4=100
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3=100
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4=100
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4=100
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2=100
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3=100
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3=100
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5=100
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3=100
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4=100
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3=100
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3=100
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7=100</i>

Q.44 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	46	48	6=100
Late October, 2006	46	47	7=100
Early October, 2006	47	47	6=100
Early September, 2006	47	47	6=100
August, 2006	48	46	6=100
June, 2006	50	45	5=100
April, 2006	48	48	4=100
March, 2006	44	50	6=100
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100

Q.44 CONTINUED...

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 ¹⁸	51	44	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

IF “KEEP TROOPS IN IRAQ” (1 IN Q.44) ASK:

Q.45 Do you think more troops are needed in Iraq right now, or do you think there are already enough troops there to do the job?

	Aug <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>	Early Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>	June <u>2004</u>	Early Jan <u>2004</u>	Oct <u>2003</u>	Sept <u>2003</u>
17 More troops needed	15	13	13	16	18	29	32	34
20 Have enough there to do the job	24	27	26	27	23	26	21	25
* Reduce number of troops (VOL.)	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
<u>9</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
46%	48%	48%	47%	52%	51%	63%	58%	64%

IF “BRING TROOPS HOME” (2 IN Q.44) ASK:

Q.46 Should the U.S. remove all troops from Iraq immediately, or should the withdrawal of troops be gradual over the next year or two?

	Aug <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>
16 Remove all troops immediately	15	18	14	17
31 Gradual withdrawal over the next year or two	30	29	32	28
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
48%	46%	48%	48%	46%

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

ROTATE Q.47 AND Q.48

Q.47 Do you think George W. Bush has a clear plan for bringing the situation in Iraq to a successful conclusion, or don't you think so?

	Has a clear <u>plan</u>	Doesn't have <u>a clear plan</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	19	74	7=100
March, 2006	23	70	7=100
December, 2005	28	66	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	30	63	7=100
July, 2005	27	64	9=100
February, 2005	32	61	7=100
Early October, 2004	35	55	10=100
Early September, 2004	36	55	9=100

18 In June 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: “Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until a stable government is established there, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?”

Q.47 CONTINUED...

	Has a clear <u>plan</u>	Doesn't have <u>a clear plan</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
August, 2004	36	58	6=100
July, 2004	34	59	7=100
June, 2004	37	55	8=100
Late April, 2004	36	54	10=100
Early April, 2004	32	57	11=100
December, 2003	44	45	11=100
October, 2003	35	54	11=100
September, 2003	32	58	10=100

Q.48 Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress have a clear plan for how to deal with the situation in Iraq, or don't you think so?

	Mid-Sept <u>2005</u> ¹⁹
22 Have a clear plan	18
65 Don't have a clear plan	71
<u>13</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>11</u>
100	100

Q.49 Do you think the war in Iraq has helped the war on terrorism, or has it hurt the war on terrorism?

	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	(VOL) <u>No effect</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	37	48	5	10=100
Late October, 2006	36	46	6	12=100
Early October, 2006	38	47	5	10=100
Early September, 2006	41	45	5	9=100
June, 2006	44	40	6	10=100
March, 2006	38	44	8	10=100
January, 2006	44	38	8	10=100
Late October, 2005	44	44	6	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	43	43	6	8=100
July, 2005	39	47	7	7=100
February, 2005	44	41	7	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	45	40	6	9=100
Early September, 2004	46	40	6	8=100
August, 2004	45	44	4	7=100
July, 2004	43	45	5	7=100
June, 2004	43	44	4	9=100
Mid-March, 2004	50	37	5	8=100
Late February, 2004	62	28	3	7=100
Early February, 2004	55	32	7	6=100
December, 2003	59	26	6	9=100
September, 2003	54	31	7	8=100
May, 2003	65	22	6	7=100

19 In Mid-September 2005 the question was worded "Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress have a clear alternative for how to deal with the situation in Iraq, or don't you think so?"

Q.49 CONTINUED...

	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>(VOL) No effect</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
April, 2003 ²⁰	63	22	--	15=100
Early October, 2002	52	34	--	14=100

Q.50 Which concerns you more... [READ AND ROTATE]

	<u>That the U.S. will leave Iraq before a stable democracy is in place</u>	<u>That the U.S. will wait too long to withdraw its troops from Iraq</u>	<u>(VOL) Neither</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	33	55	3	9=100
March, 2006	30	61	3	6=100
Early October, 2005	32	55	4	9=100
July, 2005	34	50	9	7=100
Early April, 2004	36	52	2	10=100
Mid-January, 2004	41	48	5	6=100

Q.51 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

	<u>Late Oct 2006</u>	<u>Early Oct 2006</u>	<u>Early Sept 2006</u>	<u>Aug 2006</u>	<u>June 2006</u>	<u>April 2006</u>	<u>March 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2005</u>	<u>Early Oct 2005</u>	<u>Mid- Sept 2005</u>	<u>July 2005</u>
56 Should set a timetable	54	53	47	52	52	53	55	50	56	52	57	49
36 Should not set a timetable	37	39	45	41	42	40	39	42	38	43	37	45
1 Should get out now (VOL)	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	*
7 Don't know/Refused	7	6	7	6	4	5	5	6	5	4	5	6
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=722]:

Q.52F1 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in establishing a stable democratic government in Iraq?

	<u>Sept 2006</u>	<u>Aug 2006</u>	<u>June 2006</u>	<u>March 2006</u>	<u>Feb 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2005</u>	<u>Late Oct 2005</u>	<u>July 2005</u>
7 Definitely succeed	9	12	15	10	16	14	16	12	17
39 Probably succeed	43	35	40	39	39	42	41	44	43
31 Probably fail	29	30	29	33	28	26	28	29	25
13 Definitely fail	10	11	9	10	11	8	9	8	8
10 Don't know/Refused	9	12	7	8	6	10	6	7	7
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

²⁰ In April 2003, the question was worded: "Do you think the war in Iraq will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?" In Early October 2002 the question was worded: "If the U.S. uses military force in Iraq, do you think this will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?"

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=757]:

Q.53F2 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Iraq?

		Sept <u>2006</u>	Aug <u>2006</u>
12	Definitely succeed	13	14
41	Probably succeed	44	40
28	Probably fail	26	28
13	Definitely fail	9	12
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

Q.54 As I read a few specific things about Iraq, tell me if you think we are making progress or losing ground in each area. First, are we making progress or losing ground in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think we are making progress or losing ground in this area?]**

ASK ITEMS a THRU d OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=722]:		<u>Making</u>	<u>Losing</u>	(VOL) <u>No</u>	<u>DK/</u>
		<u>progress</u>	<u>ground</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a.F1	Training Iraqi security forces so they can replace U.S. troops	48	37	1	14=100
	August, 2006	58	26	2	14=100
	June, 2006	61	28	2	9=100
	April, 2006	55	30	1	14=100
	March, 2006	56	30	1	13=100
	January, 2006	65	22	1	12=100
	December, 2005	61	27	1	11=100
b.F1	Reducing the number of civilian casualties there	20	67	2	11=100
	August, 2006	25	58	3	14=100
	June, 2006	29	56	3	12=100
	April, 2006	28	56	3	13=100
	March, 2006	27	56	3	14=100
	January, 2006	32	54	3	11=100
	December, 2005	35	53	3	9=100
c.F1	Preventing terrorists from using Iraq as a base for attacks against the U.S. and its allies	39	49	2	10=100
	August, 2006	45	40	2	13=100
	June, 2006	49	39	2	10=100
	April, 2006	44	43	3	10=100
	March, 2006	42	44	2	12=100
	January, 2006	52	33	2	13=100
	December, 2005	48	41	2	9=100

Q.54 CONTINUED...

		(VOL)			
		<u>Making</u>	<u>Losing</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/</u>
		<u>progress</u>	<u>ground</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>Ref</u>
d.F1	Establishing democracy in Iraq	43	42	2	13=100
	August, 2006	47	39	3	11=100
	June, 2006	55	35	2	8=100
	April, 2006	51	38	3	8=100
	March, 2006	50	38	2	10=100
	January, 2006	62	26	2	10=100
	December, 2005	58	32	2	8=100
ASK ITEMS e THRU g OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=757]:					
e.F2	Defeating the insurgents militarily	34	52	2	12=100
	August, 2006	41	45	3	11=100
	June, 2006	48	36	2	14=100
	April, 2006	40	46	2	12=100
	March, 2006	36	51	1	12=100
	January, 2006	46	38	3	13=100
	December, 2005	44	41	3	12=100
f.F2	Preventing a civil war between various religious and ethnic groups	22	65	2	11=100
	August, 2006	22	63	4	11=100
	June, 2006	32	50	4	14=100
	April, 2006	26	59	3	12=100
	March, 2006	24	66	2	8=100
	January, 2006	34	48	4	14=100
	December, 2005	36	49	3	12=100
g.F2	Rebuilding roads, power plants and other services in Iraq	43	36	1	20=100
	August, 2006	46	34	1	19=100
	June, 2006	52	23	1	24=100
	April, 2006	55	26	1	18=100
	March, 2006	53	29	1	17=100
	January, 2006	59	22	1	18=100

ASK ALL GENERAL PUBLIC:

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No Preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other Party</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Mid-November, 2006	25	36	32	4	*	3=100
Late October, 2006	26	32	33	5	1	3=100
Early October, 2006	27	34	33	3	*	3=100
Early September, 2006	30	34	30	3	*	3=100
August, 2006	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early 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
Yearly Totals						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
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
				No Preference/		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>		
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		
1991	31	32	33	4=100		
1990	31	33	30	6=100		
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			

IF ANSWERED 1 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYSTR Do you consider yourself a STRONG Republican or NOT a strong Republican?

	Late Early					Late															
	Oct	Oct	Sep	Dec	Dec	Jul	Aug	Sep	Sep	Aug	Nov	Oct	Apr	Oct	Jul	Jun	May	Feb	May	Jan	May
	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>
14 Strong	14	15	17	16	18	17	14	14	10	11	11	11	15	16	13	11	13	15	13	12	11
<u>11</u> Not Strong/DK 25%	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>
	26	27	30	29	31	29	27	27	24	25	25	30	30	31	29	28	28	31	28	27	25

IF ANSWERED 2 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYSTR Do you consider yourself a STRONG Democrat or NOT a strong Democrat?

	Late Early					Late															
	Oct	Oct	Sep	Dec	Dec	Jul	Aug	Sep	Sep	Aug	Nov	Oct	Apr	Oct	Jul	Jun	May	Feb	May	Jan	May
	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>
22 Strong	18	19	18	20	19	20	15	19	15	15	14	14	14	18	15	14	16	17	19	19	18
<u>14</u> Not strong/DK 36%	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
	32	34	34	34	34	33	31	34	31	33	32	30	29	32	33	32	33	38	38	39	37

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Refused to lean</u>
Mid-November, 2006	9	18	12=39%
Late October, 2006	10	17	15=42%
Early October, 2006	12	15	12=39%
September, 2006	10	15	11=36%
August, 2006	12	14	11=37%
July, 2006	11	14	13=38%
June, 2006	10	16	11=37%
April, 2006	12	17	10=39%
March, 2006	11	14	13=38%
February, 2006	11	16	10=37%
January, 2006	10	16	14=40%
December, 2005	10	16	11=37%
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early 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%

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):

REPJOB How good a job is the Republican Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON REPUBLICANS/REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=554]:

		June	April	Mid- Sept	Late March	July	Aug	May	May	(RVs) Sept
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
7	Excellent	6	6	4	8	12	6	6	10	6
35	Good	36	41	44	43	49	51	49	50	43
41	Only fair	44	41	41	36	33	37	38	32	44
15	Poor	10	10	8	9	4	5	5	5	5
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2):

DEMJOB How good a job is the Democratic Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON DEMOCRATS/DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=755]:

		June	April	Mid- Sept	Late March	July	Aug	May	May	(RVs) Sept
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
6	Excellent	4	5	3	3	6	5	5	8	11
37	Good	30	35	32	30	43	33	39	39	52
45	Only fair	51	48	49	51	40	51	43	40	32
7	Poor	13	11	14	14	8	9	10	7	4
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100