# Mixed Reactions to Republican Midterm Win 

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## Public Less Happy Than After 2006 and 1994 Elections Mixed Reactions to Republican Midterm Win

The public, voters and non-voters alike, has a subdued reaction to the Republican Party's midterm election victory. Four years ago, the response to the Democrats regaining full control of Congress was far more positive, as it was in 1994 when the GOP won a historic victory. Fewer people today say they are happy about the Republican victory, approve of the GOP's plans for the future, and far fewer believe Republicans will be successful in getting their programs passed into law.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People \& the Press, conducted Nov. 4-7 among 1,255 adults, finds $48 \%$ saying they are happy that the Republican Party won control of the House while $34 \%$ are unhappy. Four years ago, 60\% said they were happy the Democrats won full control of Congress, compared with just $24 \%$ who were unhappy. That mirrored the public's reaction in December 1994 to the GOP winning control of Congress for the first time in 40 years ( $57 \%$ happy vs. $31 \%$ unhappy).

In the current survey, $52 \%$ of those who said they voted in the Nov. 2 election were happy with the outcome compared with $42 \%$ of non-voters. Still, more voters in $2006-60 \%-$ said they were happy with the Democrats' victory.

The public has a mixed reaction to the Republican policies and plans for the future: $41 \%$ approve, while nearly as many (37\%) disapprove. Approval is somewhat greater among voters (45\%) than among non-voters (35\%). But on balance, both the general public and voters express less positive views of the GOP's policies than they did of the Democrats' proposals after the 2006 election.


Opinion of the Republicans' policies and plans for the future* GOP Victory \& Plans

How do you feel about the - Happy -Unhappy



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010.

* Asked about Democrats in 2006;

Republicans in 1994.

The public is skeptical that the GOP will be successful in getting its programs passed into law. About four-in-ten (43\%) think they will be successful while $37 \%$ say they will be unsuccessful. Following the elections of 2006 and 1994, when the victorious parties
gained majorities in both the House and Senate, far more people thought they would be successful in enacting their agenda ( $59 \%$ in 2006, 62\% in 1994).

There is little optimism that, in the wake of the election, relations between the two parties will improve. Just $22 \%$ expect relations between Republicans and Democrats to get better in the coming year, $28 \%$ say they will get worse, while $48 \%$ say they will stay about the same as they are now. Two years ago, after the presidential election, $37 \%$ of voters expected partisan relations to improve and just 18\% thought they

## Most Expect Continued Partisan Conflict

|  | Nov <br> Relations between Reps and | Nov <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | Nov <br> 2008* |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2010 |  |  |  |
| Dems in Washington will... | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Get better | 29 | 37 | 22 |
| Get worse | 21 | 18 | 28 |
| Stay about the same | 45 | 42 | 48 |
| Don't know | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov 4-7, 2010. Q46.

* 2008 figures based on those who voted in the election. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. would get worse.

Most Americans (55\%) say that Republican leaders in Congress should work with Barack Obama, even if that disappoints some of their supporters. Even more (62\%) want Obama to cooperate with GOP leaders, even if that disappoints some Democrats.

Independents want the two sides to work together - $57 \%$ say GOP leaders should cooperate with Obama while about as many (59\%) say that the president should work with GOP leaders. But as many Democrats say Obama should stand up to Republican leaders (43\%) as work with them (46\%).

Republicans are even less interested in seeing their party's congressional leaders work with Obama - and far fewer GOP voters want their party's leaders to work with Obama than did so after the 2008 presidential election. Currently $66 \%$ of Republicans and Republican-leaning voters want GOP leaders to stand up to Obama, up from $47 \%$ shortly after the

| More GOP Voters Want Leaders to "Stand Up" to Obama |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ |
| GOP leaders should... | \% | \% |
| Work w/ Obama | 46 | 29 |
| Stand up to Obama | 47 | 66 |
| Don't know | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q44F1. Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents. Based on those who voted in the election. presidential election two years ago.

On balance, more Americans say that Obama, rather than Republican congressional leaders, should take the lead in solving the nation's problems. Nearly half (49\%) say President Obama should take the lead, compared with $30 \%$ who say GOP leaders. Following the 2006 election, opinion on this measure was nearly reversed - 29\% said President George W. Bush should take the lead, while $51 \%$ said Democratic congressional leaders.

At the same time, however, the public says that Republicans will have a better approach than Obama on taxes, the budget deficit, and jobs and economic growth. On Social Security and

Obama Should Take the Lead,
But More Favor GOP Approach
on Taxes, Economy

|  | (Vol.) <br> Both/ |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rep | leaders |  |  |  | Obama | Neither |
| :--- | Diff

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q40 \& Q60.
Figures read across. health care, neither side's approach is favored, while Obama holds a modest advantage on foreign policy.

## Cut Government But...

Americans express more conservative views about the role of government than they did just two years ago. However, when it comes to the major policy decisions that will arise in coming months, the public is closely divided.

Nearly as many approve (43\%) as disapprove ( $47 \%$ ) of the new health care law, and opinions are split over what Congress should do about the legislation. Four-in-ten (40\%) favor repealing the health care law, but a larger proportion (52\%) says that the law should be expanded (30\%) or kept as it is (22\%).

Opinion about what to do with the tax cuts passed during the Bush administration is divided three ways: $34 \%$ favor keeping all of the tax cuts; $30 \%$ say the tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed while other reductions stay in place; and $28 \%$ say all the tax cuts should be repealed.

More people say that if they were setting priorities for the government, they would place a higher priority on reducing the federal budget deficit (50\%) than on spending more to help the economy recover (43\%). Those who

Split Opinions on How to Handle Key Issues

|  | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Place higher priority on... | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Spending more to help | 43 | 31 | 60 | 38 |
| economy recover | 50 | 65 | 35 | 53 |
| Reducing budget deficit | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{9}$ |
| Don't know | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| View of Bush tax cuts | 34 | 56 | 15 | 34 |
| Keep all cuts | 30 | 17 | 41 | 32 |
| Repeal cuts for wealthy | 28 | 20 | 38 | 26 |
| Repeal all cuts | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
| Don't know | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |


| Health care legislation <br>  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Congress earlier this year |  |  |  |  |

What should Congress do with health care law?

| Expand it | 30 | 8 | 48 | 32 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Leave as is | 22 | 10 | 33 | 22 |
| Repeal it | 40 | 77 | 10 | 38 |
| Don't know | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q64, Q68, Q66, Q67. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. cast a midterm ballot are more likely than nonvoters to see reducing the budget deficit as a higher priority ( $55 \%$ to $41 \%$ ).

Substantial partisan gaps are evident in attitudes toward all of these issues. However, Republicans are more unified than Democrats in their views of what to do about health care legislation and tax cuts. Fully $77 \%$ of Republicans favor repealing the health care bill, while Democrats are split between expanding the measure (48\%) and keeping it as it is ( $33 \%$ ). And while $56 \%$ of Republicans favor keeping all the tax cuts, about as many Democrats favor repealing just the tax cuts for the wealthy ( $41 \%$ ) as support getting rid of all the tax cuts (38\%).

These attitudes reflect a continuing difference between Republicans and Democrats over the parties' ideological directions. Over the past two years, Republican and Republican-leaning independents have consistently favored the GOP moving in a more conservative direction. Democrats and Democratic leaners have been just as consistent in their preference that their party move in a more moderate direction.

Republicans and Republican leaners who agree

| Reps Want GOP to Move Right, |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dems Prefer a Move to the Center |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Nov | Jan | June |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q85 \& Q86.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.

* Nov. 2008 based on those who voted in the 2008 election. with the Tea Party overwhelmingly favor the GOP moving in a more conservative direction: $71 \%$ express this view compared with just $40 \%$ of Republicans who have no opinion of the Tea Party or disagree with it.


## Lower Grades for Campaign 2010

Voters express somewhat more negative views of the just-concluded campaign than they did of the 2006 midterm election. Fully $77 \%$ of voters say there was more negative campaigning or mud-slinging than in previous elections; $69 \%$ of voters expressed this view after the 2006 election.

Most voters (64\%) say they learned enough to make an informed choice, but an even higher percentage said this in November 2006 (72\%). And slightly fewer voters say there was more discussion of issues than did so after the 2006 election (35\% today, $40 \%$ then).

Far more Republican voters (50\%) say there was more discussion of issues than said that in 2006 (32\%). By contrast, just 28\% of Democratic voters said issues received more attention - down from 50\% who said this after the Democrats regained control of Congress in 2006.

| A More Negative Campaign |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Nov | Nov |  |
| More mudslinging this year | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ | Change |
| than previous elections... | $\%$ | $\%$ |  |
| All voters | $\mathbf{6 9}$ | $\mathbf{7 7}$ | +8 |
| Republican | 75 | 70 | -5 |
| Democrat | 67 | 79 | +12 |
| Independent | 68 | 81 | +13 |

Learned enough about candidates to make an informed choice...

| All voters | $\mathbf{7 2}$ | $\mathbf{6 4}$ | $\mathbf{- 8}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Republican | 77 | 75 | -2 |
| Democrat | 71 | 58 | -13 |
| Independent | 68 | 59 | -9 |

More discussion of issues than previous elections...

| All voters | $\mathbf{4 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 5}$ | $\mathbf{- 5}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Republican | 32 | 50 | +18 |
| Democrat | 52 | 28 | -24 |
| Independent | 32 | 28 | -4 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q22-24. Nov. 4-7, 2010.
Based on those voted in the election.

## Other Important Findings

- President Obama's approval rating stands at 44\%; an identical percentage disapproves of his job performance.
- Roughly a third of Democrats (34\%) say they would like to see other Democratic candidates challenge Obama for the party's nomination in 2012. In December 1994, far more Democrats (66\%) supported a primary challenge to President Clinton.
- Just $16 \%$ of registered voters who attend religious services at least once a month say election information was available at their place of worship, down from $25 \%$ after the 2006 midterms.
- The GOP continues to be seen as a leaderless party: $51 \%$ say they don't know who leads the Republican Party while $14 \%$ volunteer that no one does. More now see John Boehner as the leader of the GOP (10\%) than did so in September (4\%).
- There is no clear front-runner for the 2012 Republican nomination for president: Sarah Palin (15\%), Mike Huckabee (15\%), and Mitt Romney (13\%) all receive about the same levels of support.


## SECTION ONE: REACTIONS TO THE GOP VICTORY

Compared with previous changes in the balance of power in Congress, Americans are expressing a muted reaction to the GOP victories this year. Just under half (48\%) say they are happy the Republican Party won control of the House, while $34 \%$ are unhappy. By

| Muted Public Response to GOP House Victory |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Happy Unhappy | DK |  |
| Public reaction to midterm outcome | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| 2010 Republicans win the House | 48 | 34 | $18=100$ |
| 2006 Democrats win control of Congress | 60 | 24 | $16=100$ |
| 2002 Republicans win the Senate | 48 | 34 | $18=100$ |
| 1998 Republicans maintain control of Congress | 47 | 32 | $21=100$ |
| 1994 Republicans win control of Congress | 57 | 31 | $12=100$ |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q37. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.
contrast, after the
Democratic Party's victories in 2006, 60\% of Americans said they were happy the Democrats had gained control of Congress, while just 24\% were unhappy. Similarly, when Republicans won in 1994, $57 \%$ of Americans said they were happy the GOP won, while $31 \%$ were unhappy.

Reflecting their more conservative leaning overall, Americans who voted in this year's midterms offer more positive assessments of the GOP than those who did not vote. Among voters, $52 \%$ are happy the Republicans won control of the House, and $45 \%$ approve of their policies and plans for the future. By comparison, $42 \%$ of non-voters are happy Republicans won, and just $35 \%$ approve of their agenda.

In 2006, $58 \%$ of independents said they were happy about the Democrats' congressional victory while $19 \%$ were unhappy. This year, by a somewhat smaller margin (48\% to 27\%), independents say they are happy about the GOP's victory.

Who's Happy the GOP Won?

|  | Nov 2006 Dem victory |  | Nov 2010 <br> Rep victory |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Happy Unhappy Happy Unhappy |  |  |  |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| All adults | 60 | 24 | 48 | 34 |
| Voters | 60 | 27 | 52 | 33 |
| Didn't vote | 59 | 20 | 42 | 35 |
| Republican | 18 | 65 | 92 | 3 |
| Democrat | 94 | 3 | 14 | 73 |
| Independent | 58 | 19 | 48 | 27 |
| Men | 56 | 25 | 51 | 31 |
| Women | 62 | 23 | 45 | 37 |
| White | 54 | 29 | 56 | 26 |
| Black | 84 | 4 | 18 | 66 |
| 18-29 | 59 | 26 | 45 | 39 |
| 30-49 | 57 | 26 | 50 | 32 |
| 50-64 | 65 | 20 | 48 | 33 |
| 65+ | 59 | 25 | 50 | 33 |
| \$75k or more | 51 | 33 | 60 | 30 |
| \$30-\$74,999 | 61 | 24 | 47 | 33 |
| Less than \$30k | 66 | 18 | 41 | 43 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q37.

While, on balance, more Americans are happy than unhappy about the Republican House victory, the public is divided almost evenly over whether they approve (41\%) or disapprove (37\%) of the Republican policies and plans for the future. This stands in contrast to much broader approval of the Democratic Party's agenda four years ago; following the 2006 election, $50 \%$ approved and just $21 \%$ disapproved of the party's policies and plans. Similarly, following the Republican Party's victory in 1994, 52\% of Americans said they approved of what the party was proposing, while $28 \%$ disapproved.

## Division of Opinion on Republican Agenda

| Winning party's policies | App- <br> rove <br> and plans for the future | Dis- <br> approve | DK |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 2010 Republicans | 41 | 37 | $22=100$ |
| Nov 2006 Democrats | 50 | 21 | $29=100$ |
| Dec 1994 Republicans | 52 | 28 | $20=100$ |
| 2010 views among... |  |  |  |
| Republican | 77 | 5 | $18=100$ |
| Democrat | 13 | 71 | $16=100$ |
| Independent | 39 | 35 | $26=100$ |
| Voters | 45 | 37 | $18=100$ |
| Didn't vote | 35 | 36 | $29=100$ |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q41.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.

Americans who voted are somewhat more supportive of the GOP's policy agenda $-45 \%$ approve of their policies and plans, compared with $35 \%$ among adults who did not vote. Independents are divided in their take on the Republicans, with $39 \%$ approving of the party's agenda, $35 \%$ disapproving, and $26 \%$ uncertain.

## Modest Expectations for GOP

The public is divided about how the new House Republican leaders will do in getting their programs passed into law; $43 \%$ believe they will be generally successful, $37 \%$ unsuccessful. This is a more guarded assessment than in past midterms when one party won majorities in both the House and Senate. After the Republican victories in 1994, 62\% felt they would be successful in pursuing their agenda, just $24 \%$ unsuccessful. Following the Democrats' victories in 2006, 59\% thought

| Fewer Predict Legislative Success |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| than After $\mathbf{1 9 9 4}$ Or $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ Midterms |  |  |  |
| Will be successful or | $\mathbf{1 9 9 4}$ <br> Rep <br> Readers | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ <br> Dem <br> leaders | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ <br> Rep <br> leaders |
| unsuccessful in |  |  |  |
| getting programs | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| passed into law | 62 | 59 | 43 |
| Successful | 24 | 22 | 37 |
| Unsuccessful | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{19}$ | $\underline{20}$ |
| Mixed/DK | 100 | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 Q42.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. they would be generally successful, $22 \%$ unsuccessful.

Most Republicans are upbeat about their party's chances of getting things done. Roughly six-in-ten (59\%) Republicans say GOP congressional leaders will be successful in getting their programs passed into law, while $23 \%$ think their party's leaders will be unsuccessful. By contrast, a plurality of Democrats (46\%) believe the GOP will be unsuccessful, though $36 \%$ think they will be successful. Independents are divided evenly: $40 \%$ think Republican leaders will be successful, $41 \%$ unsuccessful.

While they differ on how effective GOP leaders will be, Republicans and Democrats are equally skeptical about the chances of party relations improving. Just $23 \%$ of Republicans, $22 \%$ of Democrats and $23 \%$ of independents think relations between the parties will get better in the coming year. The plurality view across party lines is that relations will stay about the same as they are now.

\section*{Most Expect Continued Partisan Conflict <br> | Relations between | Nov <br> Reps and Dems in | Nov <br> 2006 | Nov <br> $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Washington will... | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Get better | 29 | 37 | 22 |
| Get worse | 21 | 18 | 28 |
| Stay about the same | 45 | 42 | 48 |
| Don't know | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |}

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 Q46.

* 2008 figures based on those who voted in the election.

Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.

This stands in contrast to the optimism Democrats expressed following Barack Obama's election as president in 2008. Immediately following that outcome, $57 \%$ of Democrats who said they voted in the election thought relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington would get better. Roughly a third (34\%) of independent voters were optimistic about improved relations, while only $17 \%$ of Republican voters thought relations would improve.

Just one-in-three (33\%) Americans believe the Republicans will do a better job running the House of Representatives than the Democrats did, while nearly half (48\%) think there won't be much difference and $14 \%$ say they will do a worse job. This is roughly the same balance of opinion expressed following the Republicans' 1994 victory. The public was more optimistic about how Democrats would do following their 2006 win. In a November 2006 CNN survey, $46 \%$ said the Democrats would do a better job of running the House than Republicans had been doing.

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov } \\ 1994 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov } \\ 2006 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nov } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| previous party... | \% | \% | \% |
| Better | 31 | 46 | 33 |
| Worse | 16 | 14 | 14 |
| No difference | 45 | 39 | 48 |
| Don't know | 8 | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 Q43. <br> 2006 Figures from CNN, 1994 figures from CNN/Time. <br> Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. |  |  |  |

## Who Should Take the Lead?

By a $49 \%$ to $30 \%$ margin, more Americans say that President Obama, rather than Republican leaders in Congress, should take the lead in solving the nation's problems. Following the Democratic congressional victories in 2006, $51 \%$ wanted to see Democrats take the lead, and just $29 \%$ wanted to see George W. Bush take the lead. When Republicans won control of both the House and Senate in 1994, the public response was evenly divided $-43 \%$ wanted to see Republicans in Congress take the lead, while $39 \%$ wanted to see President Clinton take the lead.

Obama's job approval rating is much higher today than Bush's was after the 2006 election. Currently, $44 \%$ of the public approves of Obama's job performance while the same percentage disapproves. In November 2006, just $32 \%$ approved of Bush's job performance, compared with $58 \%$ who disapproved.

Yet, when it comes to economic policy, more Americans favor Republican policies than Obama's policies. By a $37 \%$ to $27 \%$ margin, more Americans say that Republicans in Congress have the better approach as compared with Barack

## Republicans' Ideas on Taxes, Deficit, Economy Favored

| November 2010 | Reps in <br> Congress | President <br> Obama <br> $\%$ | No <br> Diff <br> $\%$ | DK <br> $\%$ | Rep <br> adv |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Taxes | 37 | 25 | 31 | $7=100$ | +12 |
| Budget deficit | 35 | 24 | 33 | $8=100$ | +11 |
| Jobs and econ. growth | 37 | 27 | 30 | $6=100$ | +10 |
| Social Security | 29 | 27 | 35 | $9=100$ | +2 |
| Health care | 36 | 35 | 24 | $5=100$ | +1 |
| Foreign policy | 26 | 32 | 34 | $8=100$ | -6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 1994 | Reps in <br> Congress | President | Clinton | No |  |
|  | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | Diff | Rep |
|  | 55 | 17 | 23 | $5=100$ | +38 |
| Taxes | 46 | 23 | 27 | $4=100$ | +23 |
| Budget deficit | 44 | 30 | 22 | $4=100$ | +14 |
| Jobs and econ. growth | 42 | 29 | 24 | $5=100$ | +13 |
| Social Sec \& Medicare | 42 | 36 | 20 | $5=100$ | +3 |
| Health care | 39 | 36 | 21 | $5=100$ | +1 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q60a-f. Figures may not add to 100\% because of rounding. 1994 figures from November NBC/Wall Street Journal survey, and are based on registered voters.

Obama, and the Republican advantage is similar when it comes to dealing with the budget deficit and taxes (on all three issues, about a third say there is no difference between the two). The public is more evenly divided when it comes to who has the better approach to Social Security ( $29 \%$ Republicans in Congress, $27 \%$ Obama), and health care (36\% Republicans, $35 \%$ Obama), and Obama has a slim edge when it comes to foreign policy.

The Republican advantages on these key issues are substantially narrower than the ones they enjoyed in the wake of the 1994 midterm election. In a November 1994 NBC/Wall Street Journal survey, Republicans held and overwhelming advantage over Clinton in terms of having better ideas on taxes ( $55 \%$ vs. $17 \%$ ), the budget deficit ( $46 \%$ vs. $23 \%$ ) and dealing with jobs and economic growth ( $44 \%$ vs. $30 \%$ ).

## Boehner More Visible

When asked who they think of as the leader of the Republican Party these days, John Boehner's name comes to mind for more Americans than any other Republican. Still, only one-in-ten Americans (10\%) volunteer Boehner as the party leader, while about half (51\%) say they don't know and $14 \%$ volunteer that nobody is. The only other name that comes up with any frequency is Sarah Palin $6 \%$ see her as the leader of the party these days. Both Boehner and Palin are mentioned more often now than in 2009, while fewer Americans today cite John McCain as the leader of the Republican Party.

There are no significant differences in who Republicans and Democrats see as the GOP's leader; $13 \%$ of Republicans and $11 \%$ of Democrats say Boehner, and 9\% and 7\%, respectively, name Palin.

| Who Leads the GOP? |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Who do you think <br> of as the leader of | Mar | Dec | Sept | Nov |
| the Republican | $\mathbf{2 0 0 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ |
| Party these days? | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| John Boehner | $*$ | $*$ | 4 | 10 |
| Sarah Palin | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| John McCain | 11 | 9 | 5 | 2 |
| Mitch McConnell | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| George W. Bush | $*$ | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Glenn Beck | $*$ | $*$ | 1 | 1 |
| Mitt Romney | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Newt Gingrich | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Rush Limbaugh | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Mike Huckabee | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 |
| Michael Steele | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Dick Cheney | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 |
| Other (< 1\%) |  |  |  | 7 |
| Nobody is | 15 | 22 | 15 | 14 |
| Don't know | $\underline{57}$ | $\underline{55}$ | $\underline{60}$ | $\underline{51}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 Q38. Open-ended question. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.
All names mentioned by $1 \%$ or more of total public shown.

## Looking Ahead to 2012

When asked who they would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for President in 2012, roughly equal numbers choose Sarah Palin (15\%), Mike Huckabee (15\%) and Mitt Romney (13\%). Another 9\% say they would like to see Ron Paul nominated, 6\% Newt Gingrich, 4\% Tim Pawlenty, 3\% Haley Barbour, and 2\% Rick Santorum.

While Republicans are substantially more likely than Democrats or independents to pick a favored candidate at this point, the top names remain the same, with Palin ( $18 \%$ of Republicans), Huckabee (19\%) and Romney (17\%) leading the pack. The candidate preferences of Americans who agree with the Tea Party largely mirror the preferences of Republicans overall.

## No Early Frontrunner for Republican Nomination

| Who would you <br> most like to see <br> nominated? | Total <br> $\%$ | Rep | Dem <br> Ind | Agree with <br> Tea Party |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sarah Palin | 15 | 18 | 12 | 16 | $\%$ |
| Mike Huckabee | 15 | 19 | 11 | 16 | 15 |
| Mitt Romney | 13 | 17 | 12 | 13 | 18 |
| Ron Paul | 9 | 9 | 5 | 14 | 17 |
| Newt Gingrich | 6 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 12 |
| Tim Pawlenty | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 10 |
| Haley Barbour | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| Rick Santorum | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Other (Vol.) | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| None (Vol.) | 14 | 5 | 25 | 11 | 5 |
| Don't know | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{18}$ | $\underline{12}$ | 6 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\underline{7}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q49. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. Respondents were offered a list of eight names and were encouraged to offer another name if they had one in mind. No other name was mentioned by more than $1 \%$.

Most Americans (56\%) say they would like to see other Democratic candidates challenge Barack Obama for the Party's nomination for president in 2012, while $38 \%$ say they would not. This is substantially less support for an intra-party challenge than in December of 1994, when $76 \%$ said they would like to see a Democrat challenge Bill Clinton for the 1996 nomination. Democrats, in particular, have different feelings today compared with 1994. Then, Democrats supported seeing someone challenge Clinton by a $66 \%$ to $30 \%$ margin. Today, they oppose a challenge to Obama's nomination by a $62 \%$ to $34 \%$ margin.

Like to See a Challenger in the Democratic Primary?

| Nov 2010 | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Obama in 2012 | \% | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Dem primary | 56 | 77 | 34 | 57 |
| Yes | 38 | 19 | 62 | 34 |
| No | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{9}$ |
| Don't know | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Dec 1994 |  |  |  |  |
| Clinton in 1996 <br> Dem primary |  |  |  |  |
| Yes |  |  |  |  |
| No | 76 | 81 | 66 | 81 |
| Don't know | 19 | 14 | 30 | 15 |
|  | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{4}$ |
| PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. | Q50. Figures may |  |  |  |
| not add to 100\% because of rounding. |  |  |  |  |

## SECTION 2: VIEWS OF THE PARTIES, PROSPECTS FOR COMPROMISE

In the wake of the election, Republicans are taking a more positive view of the job their party is doing in advocating its traditional positions. Currently, $40 \%$ of Republicans and Republican leaners say the GOP is doing an excellent or good job standing up for its traditional positions on issues like reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values; still, $52 \%$ say they are doing only a fair or poor job. In April 2009, just 21\% of Republicans viewed the party's performance positively, while $77 \%$ said it was doing only fair or poor.

Democrats, by contrast, offer somewhat less positive evaluations of their party's performance than they did last year or earlier this year. Still, more Democrats (48\%) than Republicans (40\%) say their party does an excellent or good job advocating for its traditional positions. In April 2009 and February of this year, 55\% of Democrats and Democratic leaners said the party was doing an excellent or good job standing up for traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people.

## Party Performance in Standing Up for Traditional Positions

## Views of the Republican Party (among Reps/Rep Leaners)



21

Views of the Democratic Party (among Dems/Dem Leaners)

Excellent/Good
Only fair/Poor


| July | Sept | Nov | Sept | April | Nov | July | Sept | Nov | Sept | April | Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 omnibus survey. REPJOB \& DEMJOB.

## Republicans Favor More Conservative Direction

When asked about the ideological direction of their party, Republicans want to see their party's leaders move to the right, while Democrats think their leaders should become more moderate. A majority (56\%) of Republicans and those who lean Republican would like the GOP leaders in Washington to move in a more conservative direction, while $38 \%$ would prefer a more moderate direction for the party.

By comparison, 34\% of Democrats and those who lean to the Democratic Party want to see their party's leaders move in a more liberal direction, while $54 \%$ favor a more moderate direction. Opinion among Republicans and Democrats has changed little since 2008.

These views are partly driven by the ideological composition of each party. Conservatives make up a far larger portion of the Republican Party's supporters than

## Liberal-Conservative Democratic Divide

|  | Rep/Rep leaners |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mod/ |  |  |  |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q85 \& Q86. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. liberals do of the Democratic Party (For more, see Voters Rate the Parties' Ideologies, July 16, 2010).

However, there also continue to be substantial differences in the views of conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats regarding their parties' ideological directions. Roughly three-quarters (76\%) of Republicans and GOP leaners who describe their views as conservative want the party's leaders to move in a more conservative direction. Liberal Democrats are more closely divided: 50\% of liberal Democrats and Democratic leaners want their party's leaders to move in a more liberal direction, while $41 \%$ favor a more moderate course. By contrast, comparable percentages of moderate and liberal Republicans (70\%) and conservative and moderate Democrats (64\%) favor a more moderate course for their parties.

## Compromise a Divisive Goal

The public is divided about the value of political compromise. While $42 \%$ say that they most admire political leaders who make compromises, $45 \%$ say they most admire political leaders who stick to their positions without compromising.

There are partisan differences in views about whether political leaders should compromise. A majority of Republicans say they most admire politicians who stick to their positions, rather than make compromises ( $55 \%$ vs. $33 \%$ ). These opinions are little changed from September.

| Divided Over the Value of Political |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Compromise |  |  |  |  |
| Most admire political    <br> leaders who... Total Rep Dem <br> Ind    <br> Nov 2010 $\%$ $\%$ $\%$ <br> $\%$    <br> Make compromises 42 33 46 <br> 49    <br> Stick to their positions 45 55 45 <br>  $\underline{13}$ $\underline{12}$ $\underline{9}$$\underline{\underline{11}}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Don't know | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Sept 2010 | 42 | 33 | 54 | 40 |
| Make compromises | 49 | 62 | 39 | 53 |
| Stick to their positions | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
| Don't know | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010 omnibus survey.
PEW4. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.

About half (49\%) of independents admire political leaders who make compromises with people they disagree with, while $40 \%$ admire politicians who stick to their positions without compromising. Two months ago, a majority of independents (53\%) said they preferred politicians who stick to their positions over those who compromise (40\%).

A majority of the public wants Republican leaders and Barack Obama to work together next year. More than half (55\%) say Republican leaders in Washington should try as best they can to work with Barack Obama to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters, while $38 \%$ say they should stand up to Obama on issues that are important to Republican supporters, even if less gets done in Washington.

There is even more public support for Barack Obama to work with Republican leaders next year. By a $62 \%$ to $27 \%$ margin more would like to see Barack Obama work with Republican leaders in Washington, even if it means disappointing some Democratic supporters, than stand up to Republicans on issues that are important to Democrats. Independents, in particular, would like to see both sides working together: $57 \%$ say Republican leaders should try to work with Obama and $59 \%$ want Obama to try as best he can to work with Republican leaders.

Among Republicans, there is a clear preference for holding steadfast to their positions; $71 \%$ think their leaders should stand up to Obama even if less gets done. And $89 \%$ say Barack Obama should work with GOP leaders, even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters.

But Democrats are divided; 46\% say Obama should work with Republican leaders while $43 \%$ say he should stand up to them. About three-quarters (77\%) think Republicans should work with Obama, even if it means disappointing some GOP supporters.

| Democrats Split Over Whether Obama Should 'Stand Up' to GOP |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
| Republican leaders should | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| Work with Obama | 55 | 25 | 77 | 57 |
| Stand up to Obama | 38 | 71 | 16 | 35 |
| Don't know | $\underline{8}$ | 4 | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 631 | 170 | 202 | 225 |
| Barack Obama should |  |  |  |  |
| Work with Rep leaders | 62 | 89 | 46 | 59 |
| Stand up to Rep leaders | 27 | 6 | 43 | 28 |
| Don't know | 11 | 5 | 11 | 13 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 624 | 190 | 187 | 210 |
| PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q44F1 \& Q45F2. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. |  |  |  |  |

## The Tea Party and GOP's Future

Republicans and Republican leaners who agree with the Tea Party movement are more likely than other Republicans to support a more conservative direction for the GOP, to admire politicians who stick to their positions, and to say that Republican leaders should stand up to Obama.

About seven-in-ten (71\%) Tea Party
Republicans would like to see GOP leaders move in a more conservative direction, compared with $40 \%$ of Republicans who disagree with the movement or have no opinion of it. There was a similar pattern in June with Tea Party Republicans more likely to prefer Republican leaders move to the right.

More Republicans who agree with the Tea Party also say they admire political leaders who stick to their positions rather than compromise. Similarly, $69 \%$ of Tea Party Republicans say GOP leaders should stand up to Obama, even if it means less gets done in Washington. This compares with a smaller majority (55\%) of Republicans who disagree with the Tea Party or have no opinion of the movement.

There is no difference in the views of the GOP's advocacy for its traditional positions among Republicans who agree with the Tea Party and those who do not. Slightly more than half in

Tea Party Republicans Want More Conservative Course, Reject Compromise

| Republicans shouldmove in a more... | Rep/Rep Leaners |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | All | Agree w/ Tea Party | No opinion/ Disagree |
|  | \% | \% | \% |
| Conservative direction | 56 | 71 | 40 |
| Moderate direction | 38 | 24 | 53 |
| No change/Don't know | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{6}$ | 7 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 574 | 319 | 252 |
| Admire political leaders who... |  |  |  |
| Make compromises | 37 | 31 | 46 |
| Stick to their positions | 51 | 57 | 44 |
| Don't know | $\underline{12}$ | $\underline{12}$ | 10 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
|  | 396 | 253 | 139 |
| Republican leaders should... |  |  |  |
| Work with Obama | 33 | 27 | 40 |
| Stand up to Obama | 62 | 69 | 55 |
| Don't know | $\underline{5}$ | 4 | $\underline{5}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 281 | 161 | 119 |
| How good a job is GOP doing standing up for its traditional positions? |  |  |  |
| Excellent/Good | 40 | 41 | 40 |
| Only fair/Poor | 52 | 52 | 54 |
| Don't know | 8 | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{7}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 396 | 253 | 139 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q85 \& Q44F1.
Nov. 4-7, 2010 omnibus survey. PEW4 \& REPJOB.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. each group says GOP leaders are doing only fair or poor n standing up for the party's traditional positions.

## Is Tea Party Separate from the Republican Party?

Overall, more people view the Tea Party movement as a separate movement from the Republican Party (47\%), rather than as part of the Republican Party (38\%); 16\% are unsure.

A majority of Republicans (54\%) say the Tea Party is separate and independent, while $36 \%$ say it is part of the Republican Party. By a $55 \%$ to $32 \%$ margin, more independents also see the Tea Party movement as separate and independent rather than part of the Republican Party. But more Democrats say it is part of the Republican Party (48\%) than say it is a separate and independent movement
Partisan Differences in Views of
Tea Party's Ties to GOP

| Separate |
| :---: |
| from GOP |
| $\%$ | | Part of |
| :---: |
| GOP |
| $\%$ | | Depends/ |
| :---: |
| DK |
| $\%$ |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q78.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. (33\%).

About six-in-ten (59\%) of those who agree with the Tea Party movement say it is a separate and independent movement. A comparable percentage of those who disagree with the movement (61\%) say it is part of the Republican Party.

The public expresses mixed views about whether the Republican Party is paying too much, too little or the right amount of attention to the ideas and positions of the Tea Party. A quarter ( $25 \%$ ) says the GOP is paying the right amount of attention, $22 \%$ say too much and $28 \%$ too little.

About as many Republicans say their party is paying the right amount of attention (39\%) to the Tea Party as say it is paying too little attention (31\%); only $11 \%$ say too much. By contrast, more Democrats say the GOP is paying too much attention to the Tea Party's

|  | Too much | Too little | Right amount | DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| Total | 22 | 28 | 25 | $25=100$ |
| Republican | 11 | 31 | 39 | $18=100$ |
| Democrat | 34 | 23 | 16 | $27=100$ |
| Independent | 21 | 31 | 23 | $24=100$ |
| Views of Tea Party |  |  |  |  |
| Agree with | 7 | 45 | 37 | $11=100$ |
| Disagree with | 51 | 14 | 23 | $12=100$ |
| No opinion | 18 | 25 | 20 | $37=100$ |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q79.
Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. ideas and positions (34\%), than say too little (23\%) or the right amount of attention (16\%). More independents say too little attention is being paid to the Tea Party rather than too much ( $31 \%$ vs. $21 \%$ ); $23 \%$ say the GOP is paying the right amount of attention.

Among those who agree with the Tea Party, $45 \%$ say the GOP is paying the movement too little attention, while $37 \%$ say its ideas and positions are getting the right amount of attention. About half ( $51 \%$ ) of those who disagree with the movement say Republicans are paying too much attention to the ideas and positions of the Tea Party.

As has been the case all year, there are substantial partisan and ideological differences in views of the Tea Party. About half of Republicans (52\%) agree with the movement, while few disagree. Fully $64 \%$ of conservative Republicans agree with the Tea Party movement, compared with just $28 \%$ of their moderate and liberal counterparts.

By a wide margin, more Democrats disagree with than agree with the Tea Party movement ( $43 \%$ vs. $5 \%$ ); about half of Democrats (52\%) have no opinion of the Tea Party movement or offer no response. Among liberal Democrats, $57 \%$ disagree with the Tea Party

|  | Agree | Disagree | No opinion/ DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% | \% | \% |
| Total | 27 | 22 | $52=100$ |
| Republican | 52 | 5 | $43=100$ |
| Conserv Rep | 64 | 3 | $32=100$ |
| Mod/Lib Rep | 28 | 9 | $63=100$ |
| Democrat | 5 | 43 | $52=100$ |
| Cons/Mod Dem | 6 | 38 | $56=100$ |
| Liberal Dem | 4 | 57 | $39=100$ |
| Independent | 28 | 19 | $54=100$ |
| Lean Rep | 50 | 6 | $44=100$ |
| Lean Dem | 9 | 36 | $56=100$ |
| PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q76. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding. |  |  |  | while just 4\% agree.

## SECTION THREE: VOTERS AND NONVOTERS DIFFER ON KEY POLICIES

A core theme of Republican campaigns across the country this year was a promise to reduce the size and reach of the government. The poll finds most voters in agreement with this sentiment, but less consensus on specific aspects of the Republican agenda. Moreover, the views of voters and nonvoters diverge significantly, with nonvoters expressing more support for government action.

A majority of voters in the poll (56\%) agree more with the statement that government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals, while just $38 \%$ say government should do more to solve problems. Fully eight-in-ten voters who supported Republicans ( $80 \%$ ) say government is doing too much, compared with just $26 \%$ of those who voted Democratic. Among nonvoters, the sentiment is nearly reversed, with $53 \%$ wanting more from government and just $34 \%$ saying that government is doing too much.

Consistent with this philosophical divide over the scope of government, a $55 \%$ majority of voters (including 72\% of those voting Republican) place a higher priority on deficit reduction than on spending to help the economy recover. A plurality of nonvoters in the poll (49\%) favor more government spending.

Overall opinion on the key issue of health care reform is divided, with $43 \%$ approving of the

Voters and Nonvoters Disagree on Scope of Government, Issues

|  | All <br> Adults | Voters <br> Von- | voters |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Size of government <br> Government is doing too <br> many things | 48 | 56 | 34 |
| Government should do <br> more to solve problems | 43 | 38 | 53 |
| Don't know | 9 | 7 | 13 |


| Place higher priority on... |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spending more to help |  |  |  |
| economy recover | 43 | 39 | 49 |
| Reducing budget deficit | 50 | 55 | 41 |
| Don't know | 7 | 5 | 10 |


| Health care legislation <br>  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Congress earlier this year |  |  |  |


| What should Congress do <br> with health care law? |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Expand it | 30 | 26 | 36 |
| Keep as is | 22 | 21 | 25 |
| Repeal it | 40 | 46 | 28 |
| Don't know | 8 | 7 | 10 |
| View of Bush tax cuts |  |  |  |
| Keep all cuts | 34 | 40 | 23 |
| Repeal cuts for wealthy | 30 | 33 | 24 |
| Repeal all cuts | 28 | 22 | 39 |
| Don't know | 8 | 5 | 14 |

Free trade agreements like NAFTA and WTO are...

| Good for U.S. | 35 | 30 | 44 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bad for U.S. | 44 | 50 | 35 |
| Don't know | 21 | 20 | 21 |
| Sample size | 1255 | 899 | 356 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q. 21, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 61. Figures read down.
disapproving. Among voters, roughly half (51\%) express disapproval (including a whopping $85 \%$ of those who voted Republican), compared with just $41 \%$ who approve of the legislation. Among non-voters, opinion is more divided (47\% approval vs. $40 \%$ disapproval).

Voters provided little clear guidance for future health care policy. Although a plurality favor repeal of the health care law (46\%), just as many want to keep it as is or expand it ( $26 \%$ favor expanding it, $21 \%$ favor keeping it as is). Support for repeal is lower among nonvoters. Just $28 \%$ favor repeal; $36 \%$ would like to see the measure expanded and $25 \%$ prefer keeping it as it is.

Nearly three-quarters of voters favor maintaining the Bush administration's tax cuts for most people. Still, fewer than half (40\%) want to see the tax cuts maintained for everyone; $33 \%$ want them repealed for the wealthy and $22 \%$ want them repealed altogether. Among nonvoters, the plurality view is to repeal all of the cuts (39\%), while $24 \%$ support repeal of the cuts only for wealthy taxpayers; $23 \%$ favor maintaining the cuts for everyone.

On all of these questions about future policy, as well as on the overall scope of government, respondents who are registered to vote but did not turn out in the election are at least as likely as those who are not registered to offer pro-government opinions. For example, $55 \%$ of nonvoters who are registered to vote say government should do more to solve problems, compared with $51 \%$ among those not registered to vote.

Free trade agreements did not attract as much attention in the campaign as health care reform or the deficit, but divisions between voters and nonvoters exist on this issue as well. Half of voters (50\%) say that, in general, free trade agreements such as NAFTA and the policies of the World Trade Organization have been a bad thing for the United States. Among nonvoters, however, just $35 \%$ agree - and $44 \%$ say they have been a good thing for the country. Among voters, the balance of opinion about free trade agreements was negative especially among those who voted Republican; 57\% say free trade agreements have been a bad thing for the U.S., compared with just $28 \%$ who say they have been a good thing. Opinions are more divided among those who voted Democratic, with 41\% saying free trade agreements have been a bad thing and $33 \%$ saying they have been a good thing.

## SECTION FOUR: CAMPAIGN OUTREACH

Nearly eight-in-ten registered voters (78\%) say they received printed mail from candidates or political groups during the 2010 election campaign. Nearly seven-in-ten (69\%) received pre-recorded telephone calls about the election. The number of people receiving recorded telephone calls grew steadily over the final few weeks of the campaign, increasing from $55 \%$ in mid-October, to $60 \%$ by late October, to $69 \%$ by election day.

Campaign Outreach, 2010

|  | Oct <br> $\mathbf{1 3 - 1 8}$ <br> $\mathbf{2 7 - 3 0}$ <br> Oct | Nov |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{4 - 7}$ |  |  |  |
| \% who... | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Received printed mail | 71 | 79 | 78 |
| Received pre-recorded call | 55 | 60 | 69 |
| Received call from live person | 22 | 31 | 33 |
| Received email | 26 | 27 | 31 |
| Were visited at home | 18 | 19 | 23 |
| Received text message | 4 | 5 | 7 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q53a-f. Based on registered voters.

One-third of registered voters (33\%) received a call from a live person, and $31 \%$ received email from candidates or political groups. Nearly one-quarter of registered voters (23\%) were visited at home by someone talking about the elections. Fewer than one-in-ten (7\%) received a campaign related text message on a cell phone.

Campaign contacts with voters were greater in 2010 than in 2006. This year $71 \%$ of voters received a telephone call (either recorded or from a live person) about the 2010 election. By comparison, as of election weekend in 2006, $50 \%$ of registered voters said they had been contacted over the phone by a candidate or political group. And the $31 \%$ of registered voters who received political messages via email in 2010 is more than twice the number who had received political email just prior to the 2006 election ( $14 \%$ ). In total, $89 \%$ of registered voters were contacted by a campaign in 2010 via printed mail, email, telephone, text message or in person. That compares with $58 \%$ of registered voters who had received a telephone call, a live visit or an email just prior to the 2006 election.

Just over one-in-five registered voters (22\%) say they were urged to vote for Republican candidates when contacted about the 2010 election, higher than the number who were urged to vote Democratic (16\%). One-third of registered voters (32\%) said they were contacted on behalf of both Republican and

[^0]Like the earlier surveys conducted during the 2010 campaign, the poll shows that younger voters (those under 30) were less likely than older voters to report being contacted by candidates and campaigns. Half of registered voters under 30 (50\%) received a pre-recorded telephone call about the campaign, compared with nearly twothirds or more in all older age groups. And $54 \%$ of those under 30 received printed mail about the campaign, far lower than the eight-in-ten or more in older age groups who received campaign literature through the mail. Younger voters were also less likely than older voters to have received campaign text messages; only $2 \%$ of registered voters under 30 received political texts, compared with $9 \%$ among those age $30-49,7 \%$ among those age 50-64, and $10 \%$ among those age 65 and older.

More men received campaign email, but women were more likely to receive pre-recorded telephone calls. More white registered voters received printed mail and pre-recorded phone calls than black registered voters, but the differences are smaller for other types of campaign contact. College graduates were more likely to receive printed mail and email than those with less education, but not more telephone calls, visits or text messages.

How Voters Were Contacted

| \% of voters who have been contacted by candidates and | Mail | Pre-recorded call | Personal call | Email | Visited at home | Text message |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| political groups this year by... | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| All registered voters | 78 | 69 | 33 | 31 | 23 | 7 |
| Men | 78 | 64 | 34 | 36 | 23 | 9 |
| Women | 77 | 73 | 33 | 27 | 22 | 6 |
| White, non-Hispanic | 83 | 73 | 34 | 32 | 24 | 6 |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 54 | 52 | 32 | 26 | 22 | 10 |
| 18-29 | 54 | 50 | 18 | 24 | 22 | 2 |
| 30-49 | 79 | 64 | 29 | 38 | 25 | 9 |
| 50-64 | 88 | 81 | 40 | 32 | 22 | 7 |
| 65+ | 80 | 76 | 45 | 25 | 19 | 10 |
| College grad+ | 86 | 73 | 32 | 44 | 26 | 7 |
| Some college | 76 | 68 | 32 | 28 | 24 | 8 |
| HS or less | 71 | 66 | 35 | 22 | 19 | 8 |
| Republican | 84 | 73 | 33 | 35 | 20 | 6 |
| Democrat | 73 | 66 | 35 | 33 | 21 | 9 |
| Independent | 77 | 70 | 31 | 27 | 28 | 8 |
| U.S. House vote |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Voted Republican | 87 | 75 | 35 | 36 | 23 | 7 |
| Voted Democrat | 79 | 72 | 40 | 38 | 24 | 9 |
| Protestant | 77 | 68 | 33 | 29 | 21 | 8 |
| White evangelical | 78 | 69 | 32 | 24 | 20 | 5 |
| White mainline | 87 | 77 | 36 | 34 | 24 | 8 |
| Black Protestant | 56 | 53 | 33 | 25 | 19 | 11 |
| Catholic | 79 | 74 | 35 | 30 | 24 | 6 |
| White Catholic | 85 | 77 | 34 | 32 | 27 | 6 |
| Unaffiliated | 78 | 64 | 32 | 37 | 24 | 7 |
| Attend worship services... |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weekly or more | 80 | 72 | 34 | 32 | 22 | 6 |
| Monthly/Yearly | 79 | 69 | 35 | 31 | 27 | 10 |
| Seldom/Never | 73 | 64 | 30 | 31 | 17 | 7 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q53. Based on registered voters.

Personal Involvement in the Campaign


Among those with a high
school education or less, only about one-in-eight (12\%) used the internet to follow the campaign. College graduates are also more likely than those with less education to have
donated money to a political cause and to have volunteered their time for a candidate or campaign. The survey also shows that by several measures men were more involved in the campaign than women. Men were more likely to follow the election online ( $30 \%$ vs. $23 \%$ ), contribute money to a campaign ( $16 \%$ vs. $10 \%$ ) and attend a campaign event ( $14 \%$ vs. $8 \%$ ).

Seven-in-ten registered voters (70\%) say they talked a lot (33\%) or some ( $37 \%$ ) about the campaign with family and friends. One-in-five (19\%) say they did not talk much about the campaign, and $10 \%$ say they did not discuss the campaign at all. Consistent with other polling this year that showed a large enthusiasm gap benefiting Republicans, fully eight-in-ten Republicans (81\%) talked frequently about politics with friends and family during the campaign, compared with $71 \%$ of independents and $62 \%$ of Democrats. Talking about the campaign was also more common among whites than blacks ( $74 \%$ vs. $61 \%$ saying a lot or some), and among college graduates than those with less education.

## Talked About Elections?

\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{lc} & \begin{array}{c}\text { A lot/ } \\
\text { some }\end{array}
$$ <br>

\%\end{array}\right]\)| All registered voters | 70 |
| :--- | :---: |
| White | 74 |
| Black | 61 |
| College grad+ | 80 |
| Some college | 71 |
| H.S. or less | 62 |
| Republican | 81 |
| Democrat | 62 |
| Independent | 71 |
| PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. $4-7$, |  |
| 2010. Q59 Based on registered |  |
| voters. |  |

\%
70

College grad+ 80
Some college 71
H.S. or less 62

Republican 81
Democrat 62
Independent 71
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7
2010. Q59 Based on registered voters.

## Politics in the Pulpit

Compared with 2006, fewer voters encountered information on parties or candidates in their house of worship. Among registered voters who attend worship services at least once a month, just $16 \%$ say election information was available, compared with $25 \%$ in 2006. Only $13 \%$ say their place of worship provided information about state and local ballot initiatives or constitutional amendments. Even fewer (6\%) say their clergy urged them to vote in a particular way, with similar numbers saying they were encouraged to support Republican and Democratic candidates ( $2 \%$ vs. $1 \%$ ).

Among white evangelical Protestants, $16 \%$ of churchgoers say campaign information was made available at their place of worship, down from 30\% in 2006. Similarly, far fewer Catholics say these materials were made available at their churches this year (10\%) than in 2006 (21\%). In 2006, both white evangelicals and Catholics heard significantly more than white mainline Protestants about politics in their churches; in 2010, differences between these groups have essentially disappeared.

| Voter Information and |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Endorsements in Church |  |  |
|  | Nov | Nov |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ |
| Information on parties or candidates | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| available? | 25 | 16 |
| Yes | 72 | 81 |
| No | 3 | 3 |
| Don't know |  |  |
| Information on ballot initiatives or |  |  |
| constitutional amendments |  |  |
| available? |  |  |
| Yes | -- | 13 |
| No | -- | 84 |
| Don't know | -- | 3 |
| Did clergy urge you to vote in a |  |  |
| particular way? |  |  |
| Yes | 8 | 6 |
| Republican | 3 | 2 |
| Democrat | 2 | 1 |
| Both | 1 | $*$ |
| Other/Don't Know | 2 | 2 |
| No | 91 | 93 |
| Don't know | 2 | 1 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q80-Q83 Based on registered voters who attend worship services at least monthly.

## Availability of Campaign

 Information in Church|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| All registered voters | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Protestant | 28 | 16 |
| White evangelical | 30 | 19 |
| White mainline | 11 | 16 |
| Catholic | 21 | 9 |
| White Catholic | 19 | 10 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q80 Based on registered voters who attend worship services at least monthly.

Outside of encountering political information in churches and houses of worship, only $6 \%$ say they were contacted by religious groups about the election campaign, a number that differs little across religious groups or levels of worship attendance. For instance, $7 \%$ who attend religious services weekly were contacted by a religious group, similar to $4 \%$ of those who attend monthly or yearly and $7 \%$ of those who attend seldom or never. In addition, $6 \%$ of Republicans, Democrats, and independent voters alike were contacted by religious groups about the election.

## Few Contacted by Religious Groups

|  | Were you contacted by <br> religious groups about <br> the election? |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes <br> No | DK | N |  |
| All registered voters | 6 | 93 | $\%$ | $2=100$ | 1,061

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q56.
Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to $100 \%$ because of rounding.


#### Abstract

About the Surveys

Most of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted November 4-7, 2010 among a national sample of 1,255 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States ( 828 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 427 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 189 who had no landline telephone). Interviewing was conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see: http://people-press.org/methodology/


The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2009 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the $95 \%$ level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

| Group | Sample Size | Plus or minus ... |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Total sample | 1255 | 3.5 percentage points |
| Registered Voters | 1061 | 4.0 percentage points |
| 2010 Voters | 899 | 4.0 percentage points |
| Non-voters | 356 | 6.5 percentage points |
| Republican | 360 | 6.5 percentage points |
| Democratic | 389 | 6.0 percentage points |
| Independent | 435 | 6.0 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.

Chapter Four of the report, which includes a discussion of political mobilization by religious groups, was analyzed by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion \& Public Life.

In addition to the main survey, this report is supplemented with results from an omnibus survey. Telephone interviews were conducted November 4-7, 2010 among a national sample of 996 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States ( 666 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 330 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 160 who had no landline telephone). Interviewing was conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also weighted to match current patterns of telephone status, based on extrapolations from the 2009 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the $95 \%$ level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

| Group | Sample Size | Plus or minus ... |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Total sample | 996 | 4.0 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 Pew Research Center for the People \& the Press

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<br>Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research<br>Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors<br>Michael Remez, Senior Writer<br>Leah Christian and Jocelyn Kiley, Senior Researchers<br>Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, and Alec Tyson, Research Associates<br>Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst<br>Danielle Gewurz, Research Assistant

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## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS NOVEMBER 2010 POST-ELECTION SURVEY <br> FINAL TOPLINE <br> NOVEMBER 4-7, 2010 $\mathrm{N}=1255$

## RANDOMIZE Q. 1 AND Q. 2 ASK ALL:

 Q. 1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

## Q. 1 CONTINUED...

|  | Satis- <br> fied | Dis- <br> satisfied | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January, 1992 | $\frac{28}{28}$ | 68 | 4 |
| November, 1991 | 34 | 61 | 5 |
| Gallup: Late Feb, 1991 | 66 | 31 | 3 |
| August, 1990 | 47 | 48 | 5 |
| May, 1990 | 41 | 54 | 5 |
| January, 1989 | 45 | 50 | 5 |
| September, 1988 (RVs) | 50 | 45 | 5 |

## RANDOMIZE Q. 1 AND Q. 2 <br> ASK ALL:

Q. 2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama 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 Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

|  |  | Dis- | (VOL.) |  |  | Dis- | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Approve | approve | DK/Ref |  | Approve | approve | DK/Ref |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 44 | 44 | 12 | Dec 9-13, 2009 | 49 | 40 | 11 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 46 | 45 | 9 | Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 | 51 | 36 | 13 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 47 | 44 | 9 | Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009 | 52 | 36 | 12 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 47 | 41 | 12 | Sep 10-15, 2009 | 55 | 33 | 13 |
| Jun 8-28, 2010 | 48 | 41 | 11 | Aug 20-27, 2009 | 52 | 37 | 12 |
| Jun 16-20, 2010 | 48 | 43 | 9 | Aug 11-17, 2009 | 51 | 37 | 11 |
| May 6-9, 2010 | 47 | 42 | 11 | Jul 22-26, 2009 | 54 | 34 | 12 |
| Apr 21-26, 2010 | 47 | 42 | 11 | Jun 10-14, 2009 | 61 | 30 | 9 |
| Apr 8-11, 2010 | 48 | 43 | 9 | Apr 14-21, 2009 | 63 | 26 | 11 |
| Mar 10-14, 2010 | 46 | 43 | 12 | Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009 | 61 | 26 | 13 |
| Feb 3-9, 2010 | 49 | 39 | 12 | Mar 9-12, 2009 | 59 | 26 | 15 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 49 | 42 | 10 | Feb 4-8, 2009 | 64 | 17 | 19 |

ASK ALL:
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?
[INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1 FOR REGIST AND REGICERT]
ASK IF REGISTERED (REGIST=1):
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?

| Nov 4-7 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  |
| 81 | Yes, registered |
| 78 | Absolutely certain |
| 3 | Chance registration has lapsed |
| * | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |
| 18 | No, not registered |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q. 3 Many people did not have the time or opportunity to vote in this Tuesday's election. Were you able to vote in the election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1061$ ]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{81}$ | Yes, voted | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{2002}$ | $\underline{1998}$ | $\underline{1990}$ |
| 19 | No, did not vote | 20 | 75 | 85 | 82 |
| $*$ | Don=t know/Refused (VOL.) | $*$ | 25 | 15 | 18 |
|  |  | $*$ | 0 | 0 |  |

ASK IF NOT REGISTERED OR DIDN'T VOTE (REGIST=2,9) OR (REGICERT=2,9) OR (Q.3=2,9):
Q. 4 If you had voted in Tuesday's election, would you have voted for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate in the race for Congress in your district?

BASED ON ALL NON-VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=356$ ]
Nov 4-7
2010
27 Republican candidate
37 Democratic candidate
35 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

## NO QUESTIONS 5-7

ASK ALL VOTERS (Q.3=1):
Q. 8 In the race for Congress in your district, did you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?

## BASED ON VOTERS [N=899]

| Nov 4-7 <br> $\frac{2010}{47}$ | Republican | Nov <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}^{2}$ | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 40 | Democrat | 36 | 41 | $\frac{1990}{39}$ |
| 4 | Other candidate(VOL.) | 50 | 43 | 47 |
| 1 | Did not vote for Congress (VOL.) | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 2 | Don't know/Don=t remember (VOL.) | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 7 | Refused (VOL.) | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 9 | 8 | -- |  |

## NO QUESTIONS 9-17

RANDOMIZE Q. 18 AND Q. 19
ASK ALL VOTERS (Q.3=1):
Q. 18 How confident are you that your vote was accurately counted? [READ]

BASED ON VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N = 8 9 9 ]}$

| Based on Registered Voters |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Prior to an Election |  |  |  |
| Mid | Early | Early | Mid |
| Oct | Nov | Oct | Oct |
| 2008 $^{3}$ | $\frac{2006}{57}$ | $\frac{2006}{58}$ | $\underline{2004}$ |
| 31 | 57 | 58 | 62 |
| 6 | 8 | 29 | 26 |
| 4 | 4 | 9 | 7 |
| 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 |  |

[^1]
## ASK ALL:

Q. 19 How confident are you that the votes across the country were accurately counted? [READ]

## BASED ON VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=899$ ]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{33}$ | Very confident | $\underline{2008}$ | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{2004}$ |
| 45 | Somewhat confident | 41 | 49 | 48 |
| 12 | Not too confident | 10 | 7 | 37 |
| 5 | Not at all confident | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| 5 | Don=t know/Refused (VOL.) 1 | 5 | 1 |  |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 20 Thinking about the Democratic and Republican parties, would you say there is a great deal of difference in what they stand for, a fair amount of difference, or hardly any difference at all?

|  | A great <br> deal | A fair <br> amount | Hardly <br> any | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | $\frac{38}{38}$ | 41 | 17 | 4 |
| January, 2007 | 35 | 40 | 20 | 5 |
| Early October, 2006 | 38 | 39 | 18 | 5 |
| April, 2006 | 33 | 42 | 21 | 4 |
| June, 2003 | 29 | 49 | 20 | 2 |
| February, 1999 | 33 | 46 | 18 | 3 |
| March 1998 | 28 | 45 | 23 | 4 |
| June, 1997 | 25 | 48 | 25 | 2 |
| October, 1995 | 34 | 46 | 18 | 2 |
| July, 1994 | 23 | 51 | 24 | 2 |
| May, 1990 | 24 | 45 | 27 | 4 |
| May, 1987 | 25 | 45 | 25 | 5 |

ASK ALL:
And thinking about the government ...

## ASK ALL:

Q. 21 Which comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| Nov 4-7 |  |  | Pew Social Trends |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Jun 8-28 | Jan 14-27 |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ |
| 43 | Government should do more to solve problems | 43 | 45 |
|  | Government is doing too many things better left to |  |  |
| 48 | businesses and individuals | 47 | 47 |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 10 | 8 |

## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q. 22 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 VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=899$ ]

Nov 4-7, 2010
November, $2008^{4}$

| Learned enough to make <br> an informed choice | Did not <br> learn enough | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 64 | 34 | 3 |
| 85 | 14 | 1 |
| 72 | 24 | 4 |
| 86 | 13 | 1 |

[^2]
## Q. 22 CONTINUED...

November 2000

| Learned enough to make <br> an informed choice | Did not <br> learn enough | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\frac{15}{2}$ | 2 <br> 63 |
| 75 | 35 | 2 |
| 48 | 23 | 2 |
| 77 | 50 | 2 |
| 60 | 20 | 3 |
| 59 | 38 | 2 |
|  | 39 | 2 |

## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (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 [ $\mathbf{N = 8 9 9}$ ]:

| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2008}$ | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{2004}$ | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1998}$ | $\underline{1996}$ | $\frac{1992}{25}$ |
| 55 | More | 57 | 40 | 47 | 46 | 30 | 25 | 59 |
| 6 | Less | 34 | 49 | 42 | 36 | 61 | 65 | 34 |
| 4 | Same (VOL.) | 6 | 7 | 7 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 4 |

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):
Q. 24 Compared to past elections, would you say there was MORE mud-slinging or negative campaigning or LESS mud-slinging or negative campaigning?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1061]


## NO QUESTIONS 25-36

ASK ALL:
On another subject...

## ASK ALL:

Q. 37 Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the House of Representatives?


[^3]
## ASK ALL:

Q. 38 Thinking about the Republican Party, who do YOU think of as the leader of the Republican Party these days... [SINGLE RESPONSE, DO NOT READ OPTIONS. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE; ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE. IF "DON'T KNOW" PROBE ONCE: Just anyone who comes to mind ?]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Sep 9-12 | Apr 21-26 | Dec 9-13 | Mar 9-12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2009}$ | $\underline{2009}$ |
| 10 | John Boehner | 4 | 1 | * | , |
| 6 | Sarah Palin | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | John McCain | 5 | 8 | 9 | 11 |
| 2 | Mitch McConnell | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | George W. Bush | 0 | 1 | 1 | * |
| 1 | Glenn Beck | 1 | * | * | * |
| 1 | Mitt Romney | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | Newt Gingrich | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | Rush Limbaugh | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 1 | Mike Huckabee | * | 1 | 1 | * |
| 1 | Michael Steele | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | Dick Cheney | * | * | 1 | * |
| 7 | Other (anyone less than 1\%) | L.) |  |  |  |
| 14 | Nobody is (VOL.) | 15 | 18 | 22 | 15 |
| 51 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 60 | 52 | 55 | 57 |

## NO QUESTION 39

ASK ALL:
Q. 40 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems - President Obama, or the Republican congressional leaders?

Bush or Dem leaders

| Nov | Sep | Feb | Nov | Mar | Apr | Mar | Feb | Dec |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1998 | 1998 | 1997 | 1996 | 1996 | 1995 | 1995 | 1995 | 1994 |
| 49 | 47 | 48 | 45 | 47 | 48 | 40 | 40 | 39 |
| 26 | 32 | 29 | 30 | 36 | 36 | 40 | 38 | 43 |
| 16 | 12 | 14 | 19 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 16 | 10 |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 10 | 6 | 8 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 41 As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

| Nov 4-7 |  | Democratic <br> congressional leaders | Nec |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{41}$ | Approve | $\underline{2006}$ | Dec |
| 37 | Disapprove | 50 | $\frac{1994}{52}$ |
| 22 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 21 | 28 |
|  |  | 29 | 20 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 42 Generally, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Sep | Dec |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{1995}^{8}$ | $\frac{1994}{43}$ |
| Successful | 59 | 54 | 62 |  |
| 37 | Unsuccessful | 22 | 31 | 24 |
| 5 | Mixed/Get some passed (VOL.) | 6 | n/a | 4 |
| 15 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 13 | 15 | 10 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 43 Do you think the Republicans will do a better job running the House of Representatives than the Democrats did, a worse job than the Democrats, or won't there be much difference?

Nov 4-7, 2010

| $\frac{\text { Better }}{33}$ | $\frac{\text { Worse }}{14}$ | No <br> difference | (VOL.) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | DK/Ref |
| 46 | 14 | 39 | 2 |  |
| 28 | 15 | 50 | 7 |  |
| 37 | 13 | 42 | 8 |  |
| 31 | 16 | 45 | 8 |  |

ASK ALL FORM 1 [ $\mathrm{N}=631$ ]:
Q.44F1 Next year should the Republican leaders in Washington... [READ]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Voters <br> Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2008}{ }^{9}$ |
|  | Try as best they can to work with Barack Obama to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing |  |
| 55 | some groups of Republican supporters? [OR] | 66 |
|  | Should they stand up to Barack Obama on issues that are important to Republican supporters, |  |
| 38 | even if it means less gets done in Washington? | 28 |
| 8 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 6 |

## TREND FOR COMPARISON:

This year should the Democratic leaders in Washington... [READ]

|  | Jan <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}^{10}$ | Nov <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Try as best they can to work with George W. Bush <br> to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing <br> some groups of Democratic supporters? | 52 | 54 |
| [OR] |  |  |
| Should they stand up to George W. Bush on issues <br> that are important to Democratic supporters, <br> even if it means less gets done in Washington? <br> Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 43 | 36 |
|  | 5 | 11 |

[^4]
## ASK ALL FORM 2 [N=624]:

Q.45F2 Next year should Barack Obama... [READ]

Nov 4-7
$\underline{2010}$
Try as best he can to work with Republican leaders to accomplish things, even if it means
62 disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters?
[OR]
Should he stand up to the Republicans on issues that are important to Democratic
27 supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?
11 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

## ASK ALL:

Q. 46 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?

|  |  | Voters |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Nov |
| $\frac{2010}{22}$ | Get better | $\underline{2008}$ | $\underline{2006}$ |
| 28 | Get worse | 18 | 29 |
| 48 | Stay about the same | 42 | 21 |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 3 | 5 |

## NO QUESTIONS 47-48

## ASK ALL:

And a different kind of question...
Q. 49 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the REPUBLICAN nomination for President in 2012. 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 or if there is someone else you support. [PROBE IF NECESSARY: Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?] [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| Nov 4-7 <br> $\frac{2010}{15}$ |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| 15 | Sarah Palin |
| 13 | Mike Huckabee |
| 9 | Mott Romney |
| 6 | Newt Gingrich |
| 4 | Tim Pawlenty |
| 3 | Haley Barbour |
| 2 | Rick Santorum |
| 4 | Other (VOL.) |
| 14 | None (VOL.) |
| 14 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 50 And thinking about the 2012 Democratic nomination, would you like to see other Democratic candidates challenge Barack Obama for the Party's nomination for president in 2012, or not?

| Nov 4-7 <br> $\frac{2010}{}$ | Dec <br> 56 | Yes |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 38 | No | ${\frac{1994 ~}{}{ }^{11}}_{76}$ |
| 6 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 19 |
|  |  | 5 |

## NO QUESTIONS 51-52

[^5]
## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q. 53 Here is a list of different ways that candidates and political groups contact voters during election campaigns. THIS year, did you... [INSERT IN ORDER], or not? Did you [INSERT NEXT ITEM] this year, or not? [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT ASKS, CLARIFY THAT WE MEAN ASIDE FROM THE CURRENT CALL] ${ }^{12}$

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1061$ ]

a. Receive printed mail from candidates or political groups

| Nov 4-7,2010 | 78 | 21 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 | 79 | 20 | 1 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 71 | 28 | 1 |

b. Receive email from candidates or political groups

Nov 4-7, 2010
Oct 27-30, 2010
$\begin{array}{lll}31 & 67 & 1\end{array}$
Oct 13-18, 2010
$27 \quad 72$
2
$26 \quad 72$
(VOL.)
DK/Ref

No

1
1
c. Get visited at home by someone talking about the elections

Nov 4-7, $2010 \quad 23 \quad 77$ *
Oct 27-30, 2010
80
*
Oct 13-18, 2010
19
82
d. Receive a pre-recorded telephone call
about the elections
Nov 4-7, $2010 \quad 69 \quad 30 \quad 1$
Oct 27-30, 2010
$60 \quad 39$
1
Oct 13-18, $2010 \quad 5544$
1
e. Receive a telephone call from a live person about the elections

| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 33 | 65 | 2 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 | 31 | 68 | 1 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 22 | 76 | 2 |

f. Receive a text message on your cell phone
from candidates or political groups

| Nov 4-7,2010 | 7 | 92 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 | 5 | 94 | 1 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 4 | 95 | 1 |

[^6]
## Q. 53 TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Here are a few ways that candidates and political groups contact voters to encourage them to vote a particular way. Thinking just about the past few months, have you been contacted by any candidates or political groups [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? Have you been contacted by any candidates or political groups [NEXT ITEM]?

| By e-mail | Yes | No | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 2006 |  |  |  |
| Late October, 2006 | 14 | 84 | 2 |
| Early October, 2006 | 16 | 82 | 2 |
|  | 15 | 83 | 2 |
| In person by someone |  |  |  |
| coming to your door |  |  |  |
| November, 2006 | 15 | 85 | $*$ |
| Late October, 2006 | 14 | 86 | $*$ |
| Early October, 2006 | 14 | 86 | $*$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Over the phone | 50 | 49 | 1 |
| November, 2006 | 41 | 59 | $*$ |
| Late October, 2006 | 38 | 61 | 1 |
| Early October, 2006 | 33 | 66 | 1 |
| Early November, 2002 | 25 | 75 | $*$ |

## NO QUESTION 54

ASK IF WAS CONTACTED (Q53a=1 OR Q53b=1 OR Q53c=1 OR Q53d=1 OR Q53e=1 OR Q53f=1)
Q. 55 When you were contacted, were you urged to vote for Democratic candidates OR Republican candidates?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1061$ ]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Oct 13-18 | Nov | Late | Early |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2006}{ }^{14}$ | Oct 2006 | Oct 2006 |
| 89 | Yes, contacted (NET) | 84 | 58 | 54 | 49 |
| 16 | Democratic candidates | 21 | 13 | 15 | 14 |
| 22 | Republican candidates | 20 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| 1 | Other (VOL.) | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 32 | Both (VOL.) | 20 | 18 | 13 | 11 |
| 5 | Urged to vote, not for any particular candidate (VOL.) | - | - | - | - |
| 12 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 18 | 12 | 10 | 9 |
| 11 | Not contacted/DK/Ref | 16 | 42 | 46 | 51 |

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):
Q. 56 And were you contacted by any religious organizations about the election campaign, or not?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N = 1 0 6 1 ]}$

| Nov 4-7 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2010}{6}$ | Yes |
| 93 | No |
| 2 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

[^7]
## NO QUESTION 57

## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q. 58 Now, here is a list of different ways that people can get involved in the election campaigns. THIS year, did you... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE], or not? Did you [NEXT ITEM] this year, or not? ${ }^{15}$

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1061]

|  |  | Yes | No | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Volunteer your time to help one of the candidates or campaigns |  |  |  |
|  | Nov 4-7, 2010 | 7 | 93 | 0 |
|  | Oct 13-18, 2010 | 7 | 93 | * |
|  | Late October, $2006{ }^{16}$ | 5 | 95 | * |
| b. | Contribute money to any of the candidates or campaigns |  |  |  |
|  | Nov 4-7, 2010 | 13 | 87 | * |
|  | Oct 13-18, 2010 | 14 | 86 | * |
|  | Late October, $2006{ }^{17}$ | 10 | 90 | * |
| c. | Attended a campaign event |  |  |  |
|  | Nov 4-7, 2010 | 11 | 89 | 0 |
|  | Oct 13-18, 2010 | 11 | 89 | 0 |
| d. | Visit a candidate's website or followed a candidate through email, facebook or twitter |  |  |  |
|  | Nov 4-7, 2010 | 26 | 74 | * |
|  | Oct 13-18, 2010 | 19 | 81 | * |

[^8]
## Q. 58 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

So far in this presidential campaign, have you... [INSERT IN ORDER], or not? Have you [NEXT ITEM] or not? [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT ASKS, ASIDE FROM THE CURRENT CALL]

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

## (VOL.)

| Contributed money to any of the presidential candidates | Yes |  | No | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 2008 |  |  |  |  |
| Mid-October, 2008 | 17 | 82 | 1 |  |
| June, 2008 |  | 15 | 85 | $*$ |
| March, 2008 | 13 | 86 | 1 |  |
| November, 2007 | 9 | 91 | $*$ |  |
|  | 8 | 91 | 1 |  |

Attended a campaign event
November, 2008
Mid-October, 2008
March, 2008
November, 2007
88
*

4
92
0

Please tell me if you have ever done any of the things I mention, or not. (First,) Have you EVER... (INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; IF YES ASK: Thinking ONLY ABOUT THE LAST 12 MONTHS, that is since September of 2005, have you... (INSERT ITEM) [FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS SIMPLIFY TO "And have you done that in the last 12 months or not"]?

| a. | Contributed money to a candidate running for public office | ------- Yes, done this -------$\begin{gathered}\text { Within Not within } \\ \text { Total } \\ \text { last year last year }\end{gathered}$ |  |  | No | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Early October, 2006 | 30 | 12 | 18 | 69 | * |
|  | Early January, 2004 | 25 | 10 | 15 | 75 | * |
|  | January, 2000 | 28 | 11 | 18 | 71 | 1 |
|  | June, 1993 (GP) | 19 | 8 | 11 | 80 | 1 |
| d. | Attended a campaign event |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Early October, 2006 | 33 | 9 | 24 | 67 | * |
|  | Early January, 2004 | 23 | 7 | 16 | 77 | * |

[^9]
## ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q. 59 This year, how much, if at all, did you talk with friends and family about the candidates and elections? [READ IN ORDER]

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1061$ ]

$\left.\begin{array}{cl}\text { Nov 4-7 } \\ \frac{2010}{} & \\ 33 & \text { A lot } \\ 37 & \text { Some } \\ 19 & \text { Not much } \\ 10 & \text { Not at all } \\ * & \text { Don't know/Refused (VOL.) }\end{array} . \begin{array}{l}\end{array}\right)$.

## ASK ALL:

Thinking about some issues ...
ASK ALL:
Q. 60 Who do you think will have the better approach to [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] President Obama or the Republicans in Congress, or do you think there won't be much difference on the issue? How about [INSERT NEXT ITEM]? ${ }^{19}$
a. Jobs and economic growth

| President | Republicans <br> Obama much (VOL.) <br> in Congress |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{\text { difference }}$ DK/Ref |  |

Nov 4-7, 2010

TREND FOR COMPARISON:
President Clinton

| NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996 | 44 | 28 | 22 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996 | 32 | 29 | 27 | 12 |
| NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995 | 36 | 34 | 25 | 5 |
| NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs) | 30 | 44 | 22 | 4 |

b. The budget deficit

Nov 4-7, 2010
24
35
33
8
TREND FOR COMPARISON:
President Clinton

| NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996 | 29 | 31 | 34 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996 | 28 | 34 | 29 | 9 |
| NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995 | 25 | 40 | 27 | 8 |
| NBC/WSJ: Sep 1995 | 30 | 35 | 25 | 10 |
| NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995 | 27 | 39 | 24 | 10 |
| NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995 (RVs) | 25 | 37 | 29 | 9 |
| NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (R $)$ | 23 | 46 | 27 | 4 |

c. Foreign policy

Nov 4-7, 2010
32
26
$34 \quad 8$
TREND FOR COMPARISON:
President Clinton
NBC/WSJ: Jan 19963
NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995
31
NBC/WSJ: Sep 1995
30
NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs) ${ }^{20}$
26
27
36

| 37 | 30 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| 28 | 22 | 6 |
| 29 | 27 | 12 |
| 34 | 25 | 5 |
| 44 | 22 | 4 |
|  |  |  |
| 35 | 33 | 8 |
|  |  |  |
| 31 | 34 | 6 |
| 34 | 29 | 9 |
| 40 | 27 | 8 |
| 35 | 25 | 10 |
| 39 | 24 | 10 |
| 37 | 29 | 9 |
| 46 | 27 | 4 |
|  |  |  |
| 26 | 34 | 8 |
|  |  |  |
| 25 | 29 | 15 |
| 36 | 25 | 9 |
| 38 | 23 | 13 |
| 34 | 26 | 13 |
| 37 | 22 | 5 |

[^10]
## Q. 60 CONTINUED...

d. Health care

Nov 4-7, 2010
END FOR COMPARISON:
TREND
President Clinton
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)

| President | Republicans | Not much <br> Obama <br> in Congress | difference |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | DK/Ref

e. Taxes

Nov 4-7, 2010

| 36 | 24 | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |
| 27 | 23 | 8 |
| 39 | 20 | 5 |

TREND FOR COMPARISON:
President Clinton
NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996
NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995
$35 \quad 36$

39
20
5

NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)
3
42
$37 \quad 31$
ocial Security
Nov 4-7, 2010
27
29
35
9
TREND FOR COMPARISON:
President Clinton
NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996
38
27
25
10
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs) ${ }^{21}$
29
42
24

## QUESTIONS 61-63 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

## ASK ALL:

Thinking about some other issues...

## ASK ALL:

Q. 64 If you were setting priorities for the government these days, would you place a higher priority on [OPTION] or a higher priority on [OPTION]?
Nov 4-7
$\frac{2010}{43}$
50
7
Spending more to help the economy recover
Reducing the budget deficit
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

| Jul $15-18$ | Feb 3-9 | Jul $22-26$ | Jun $18-21$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{51}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{2 0 1 0}}{47}$ | $\underline{2009}^{22}$ | $\frac{2009}{48}$ |
| 40 | 47 | 38 | 46 |
| 9 | 6 | 9 | 6 |

ASK ALL:
Thinking about some other issues...
Q. 65 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military?
Nov 4-7, 2010
Jul 21-Aug 5, $2010^{23}$
Feb 3-9, 2010
Mar 9-12, 2009
March, 2006
July, 2005
July, 1994

| Strongly |  |  | Strongly |  |  | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | favor | Favor | Total | oppose | Oppose | DK/Ref |
| 58 | 23 | 35 | 27 | 11 | 16 | 16 |
| 60 | 21 | 39 | 30 | 13 | 17 | 10 |
| 61 | 18 | 43 | 27 | 10 | 17 | 12 |
| 59 | 19 | 40 | 32 | 13 | 19 | 9 |
| 60 | 20 | 40 | 32 | 13 | 19 | 8 |
| 58 | 15 | 43 | 32 | 15 | 17 | 10 |
| 52 | 16 | 36 | 45 | 26 | 19 | 3 |

[^11]
## ASK ALL:

Q. 66 Do you approve or disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress earlier this year?

| Nov 4-7 |  | Sep 9-12 | Aug 25-Sep 6 | Jul 8-11 | Apr 1-5 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2010}$ | Approve | $\underline{2010}^{24}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ |
| 43 | Disapprove | 45 | 44 | 35 | 40 |
| 10 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 17 | 46 | 47 | 44 |
|  |  | 10 | 17 | 16 |  |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 67 What, if anything, do you think Congress should do with the health care law? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| Nov 4-7 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2010}{30}$ | Expand it |
| 22 | Leave it as is |
| 40 | Repeal it |
| 8 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

ASK ALL:
Q. 68 Which comes closer to your view about the tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president? [READ IN ORDER]

|  | All of the tax cuts should remain in place | Tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed, while others stay in place | All of the tax cuts should be repealed | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 34 | 30 | 28 | 8 |
| Sep 9-12, 2010 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 14 |
| Jul 22-25, 2010 | 30 | 27 | 31 | 12 |
| Late October, $2008{ }^{25}$ | 23 | 34 | 27 | 16 |
| Mid-October, 2008 | 25 | 37 | 25 | 13 |
| November, 2007 | 30 | 38 | 22 | 10 |
| October, 2007 | 24 | 31 | 30 | 15 |
| Early November, 2006 (RVs) | 30 | 34 | 22 | 14 |
| Early October, 2006 | 26 | 36 | 26 | 12 |
| April, 2006 | 25 | 36 | 28 | 11 |
| December, 2004 | 28 | 35 | 25 | 12 |
| Early September, 2004 | 27 | 31 | 28 | 14 |

## NO QUESTIONS 69-70

QUESTIONS 71-73 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## NO QUESTIONS 74-75

[^12]
## ASK ALL:

Q. 76 From what you know, do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

|  |  |  | (RVs) | (RVs) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | (RVs) | Oct | Aug 25- Jul 21- |  | Jun | May | Mar |
| Nov 4-7 |  | Oct 27-30 | 13-18 | Sep 6 | Aug 5 | 16-20 | 20-23 | 11-21 |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2010}{ }^{26}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | 2010 | 2010 | 2010 | $\underline{2010}$ |
| 8 | Strongly agree | 12 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 9 |
| 19 | Agree | 17 | 19 | 18 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| 11 | Disagree | 11 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 7 |
| 11 | Strongly disagree | 14 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 7 |
| 49 | No opinion either way | 32 | 30 | 32 | 37 | 30 | 31 | 29 |
| 1 | Haven't heard of (VOL.) | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Refused (VOL.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | * | 1 | 1 |
| -- | Not heard of Tea Party/Don't know | 13 | 16 | 13 | 21 | 27 | 25 | 31 |

## NO QUESTION 77

## ASK ALL:

Q. 78 Do you think of the Tea Party movement as [INSERT; RANDOMIZE] or as [NEXT]?

| Nov 4-7 | Registered Voters who have <br> heard of the Tea Party |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2010}{38}$ A part of the Republican Party <br> 47 A separate and independent movement from the Republican Party <br> 1 Depends <br> 15 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)Aug 2010 |  |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 79 So far, are Republican leaders in Congress paying too much attention, too little attention, or the right amount of attention to the ideas and positions of the Tea Party?

| Nov 4-7 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2010 |  |
| 22 | Too much |
| 28 | Too little |
| 25 | Right amount |
| 25 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

## ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

Nov 4-7, 2010

| More than <br> once a week | Once <br> a week | Once or twice <br> a month | A few times <br> a year | Seldom <br> 24 | $\frac{\text { Never }}{13}$ | $\frac{\text { (VOL.) }}{24}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

[^13]
## ASK IF (ATTEND=1-3):

Q. 80 Was information on political parties or candidates for the recent election made available in your place of worship, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH [N=591]:

|  |  |  | Voters |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7 |  | Oct 13-18 | Nov | Nov | Nov | Noters Voters |  |
| $\frac{2010}{16}$ |  | $\underline{2010^{27}}$ | $\underline{2008}$ | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{2004}$ | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1996}{28}$ |
| 81 | Yes | 15 | 15 | 25 | 27 | 14 | 28 |
| 3 | No | 82 | 82 | 72 | 71 | 83 | 69 |
|  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |

ASK IF (ATTEND=1-3):
Q. 81 Was information on any state or local ballot initiatives or constitutional amendments made available in your place of worship, or not?
BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH [ $\mathrm{N}=591$ ]

|  |  | -- Voters -- |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Nov |
| $\frac{2010}{13}$ | Yes | $\underline{2008}$ | $\frac{2004}{19}$ |
| 84 | No | 13 | 19 |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 2 | 1 |

ASK IF (ATTEND=1-3):
Q. 82 And did the clergy at your place of worship or any other religious groups urge you to vote a particular way in the recent election, or not?
ASK IF YES (Q.82=1),:
Q. 83 Were you urged to vote for Republican candidates or for Democratic candidates?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH [ $\mathrm{N}=591$ ]

|  |  |  | Voters |  | Voters |  | Voters |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7 |  | Oct $13-18$ | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2008}$ | $\underline{2006}$ | $\underline{2004}$ | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |
| 6 | Yes | 5 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 6 | 7 |
| 2 | Republican candidates | 3 | -- | 3 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Democratic candidates | 1 | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- |
| $*$ | Both (VOL.) | 0 | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- |
| 2 | Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | $*$ | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- |
| 93 | No | 94 | 92 | 91 | 89 | 93 | 91 |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 1 | $*$ | 2 | $*$ | 1 | 2 |

[^14]
## ASK IF (ATTEND=1-3):

Q. 82 And did the clergy at your place of worship or any other religious groups urge you to vote a particular way in the recent election, or not?
ASK IF YES (Q.82=1):
Q. 84 Were you urged to vote in a particular way in a Congressional race, a state race, a local race or on specific ballot issues? [ACCEPT MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE]

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH [ $\mathrm{N}=591$ ]

| Nov 4-7 |  | Nov | Voters |  | Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Nov | Nov |  |
| $\underline{2010}$ |  | $\underline{2008}{ }^{28}$ | $\underline{2004}$ | $\underline{2000}^{29}$ | 1996 |
| 6 | Yes | 8 | 11 | 6 | 7 |
| 2 | Congressional | * | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | State | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| * | Local | * | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Ballot issues | 3 | 4 | - | - |
| 2 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 93 | No | 92 | 89 | 93 | 91 |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | * | * | 1 | 2 |

ASK ALL:
PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?
ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):
PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent | (VOL.) <br> No preference | (VOL.) <br> Other <br> party | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Lean } \\ & \text { Rep } \end{aligned}$ | Lean Dem |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 26 | 30 | 37 | 4 | * | 2 | 17 | 13 |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 | 25 | 34 | 31 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 13 | 11 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 25 | 31 | 36 | 4 | * | 3 | 16 | 13 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 24 | 32 | 39 | 2 | * | 2 | 15 | 17 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 26 | 33 | 34 | 4 | * | 3 | 14 | 14 |
| Jun 16-20, 2010 | 27 | 34 | 34 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 15 |
| Apr 21-26, 2010 | 26 | 33 | 36 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 16 | 13 |
| Mar 11-21, 2010 | 28 | 34 | 32 | 3 | * | 3 | 13 | 12 |
| Mar 10-14, 2010 | 22 | 33 | 37 | 6 | * | 3 | 14 | 13 |
| Feb 3-9, 2010 | 26 | 31 | 37 | 3 | * | 3 | 14 | 17 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 22 | 33 | 42 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 17 | 16 |
| Yearly Totals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2009 | 23.9 | 34.4 | 35.1 | 3.4 | . 4 | 2.8 | 13.1 | 15.7 |
| 2008 | 25.7 | 36.0 | 31.5 | 3.6 | . 3 | 3.0 | 10.6 | 15.2 |
| 2007 | 25.3 | 32.9 | 34.1 | 4.3 | . 4 | 2.9 | 10.9 | 17.0 |
| 2006 | 27.8 | 33.1 | 30.9 | 4.4 | . 3 | 3.4 | 10.5 | 15.1 |
| 2005 | 29.3 | 32.8 | 30.2 | 4.5 | . 3 | 2.8 | 10.3 | 14.9 |
| 2004 | 30.0 | 33.5 | 29.5 | 3.8 | . 4 | 3.0 | 11.7 | 13.4 |
| 2003 | 30.3 | 31.5 | 30.5 | 4.8 | . 5 | 2.5 | 12.0 | 12.6 |
| 2002 | 30.4 | 31.4 | 29.8 | 5.0 | . 7 | 2.7 | 12.4 | 11.6 |
| 2001 | 29.0 | 33.2 | 29.5 | 5.2 | . 6 | 2.6 | 11.9 | 11.6 |
| 2001 Post-Sept 11 | 30.9 | 31.8 | 27.9 | 5.2 | . 6 | 3.6 | 11.7 | 9.4 |
| 2001 Pre-Sept 11 | 27.3 | 34.4 | 30.9 | 5.1 | . 6 | 1.7 | 12.1 | 13.5 |
| 2000 | 28.0 | 33.4 | 29.1 | 5.5 | . 5 | 3.6 | 11.6 | 11.7 |
| 1999 | 26.6 | 33.5 | 33.7 | 3.9 | . 5 | 1.9 | 13.0 | 14.5 |
| 1998 | 27.9 | 33.7 | 31.1 | 4.6 | . 4 | 2.3 | 11.6 | 13.1 |
| 1997 | 28.0 | 33.4 | 32.0 | 4.0 | . 4 | 2.3 | 12.2 | 14.1 |
| 1996 | 28.9 | 33.9 | 31.8 | 3.0 | . 4 | 2.0 | 12.1 | 14.9 |
| 1995 | 31.6 | 30.0 | 33.7 | 2.4 | . 6 | 1.3 | 15.1 | 13.5 |

[^15]
## PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...



## ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1) [N=574]:

Q. 85 Would you like to see Republican leaders in Washington move in a more conservative direction or a more moderate direction?

| Nov 4-7 |  |  | Jun 16-20 | Jan 6-10 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | | Voters |
| :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{\text { Nov 6-9 }}$ |

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2) [N=549]:
Q. 86 Would you like to see Democratic leaders in Washington move in a more liberal direction or a more moderate direction?

| Nov 4-7 |  |  | Jun 16-20 | Jan 6-10 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2010}{34}$ | More liberal | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{2010}$ | $\underline{34}$ |
| Nov 6-9 |  |  |  |  |

ASK ALL:
PVOTE08A In the 2008 presidential election between Barack Obama and John McCain, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?
ASK IF VOTED (PVOTE08A=1):
PVOTE08B Did you vote for Obama, McCain or someone else?
BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N = 1 0 6 1 ] : ~}$
(VOL.)

|  | Voted | Obama | McCain | Other candidate | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref | Did not vote | Don't remember/ Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 89 | 45 | 33 | 6 | 4 | 11 | $\frac{1}{1}$ |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 | 88 | 44 | 35 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 2 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 89 | 45 | 35 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 1 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 89 | 46 | 34 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 1 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 92 | 44 | 37 | 4 | 6 | 8 | * |
| Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009 | 93 | 47 | 34 | 5 | 7 | 7 | * |
| Feb 4-8, 2009 | 93 | 48 | 33 | 4 | 8 | 7 | * |
| Jan 7-11, 2009 | 93 | 48 | 35 | 4 | 6 | 7 | * |
| December, 2008 | 93 | 50 | 32 | 3 | 9 | 7 | * |

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX NOVEMBER 4-7, 2010 OMNIBUS FINAL TOPLINE <br> $\mathrm{N}=996$

## PEW.1-PEW. 2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

## ASK ALL:

PEW. 3 Now thinking about political leaders... All things considered, which do you admire most? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]:

| Nov 4-7  <br> $\frac{2010}{42}$  <br> 45 Political leaders who make compromises with people they disagree with [OR] | Sep 16-19 <br> 2010 <br> 42 <br> 13 | Political leaders who stick to their positions without compromising |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |

## PEW.4-PEW. 6 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

## 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 - In general, would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=396]:

|  | Excellent | Good | Only fair | Poor | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 8 | 32 | 40 | 12 | 8 |
| Feb 3-9, 2010 | 3 | 31 | 49 | 14 | 3 |
| Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009 | 3 | 18 | 54 | 23 | 2 |
| Mid-September, 2008 | 4 | 31 | 44 | 19 | 2 |
| October, 2007 | 5 | 31 | 49 | 13 | 2 |
| Late November, 2006 | 7 | 35 | 41 | 15 | 2 |
| June, 2006 | 6 | 36 | 44 | 10 | 4 |
| April, 2006 | 6 | 41 | 41 | 10 | 2 |
| Mid-September, 2005 | 4 | 44 | 41 | 8 | 3 |
| Late March, 2005 | 8 | 43 | 36 | 9 | 4 |
| July, 2004 | 12 | 49 | 33 | 4 | 2 |
| August, 2003 | 6 | 51 | 37 | 5 | 1 |
| May, 2002 | 6 | 49 | 38 | 5 | 2 |
| May, 2001 | 10 | 50 | 32 | 5 | 3 |
| September, 2000 (RVs) | 6 | 43 | 44 | 5 | 2 |

## 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 - In general, would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=457]:

|  | Excellent |  | Good |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Only fair |  | Poor | (VOL.) <br> Nov 4-7, 2010 | 10 |  | 38 |
|  | 35 |  | 15 | $\frac{2}{2}$ |  |  |
| Feb 3-9, 2010 | 8 |  | 47 | 36 | 7 | 1 |
| Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009 | 10 |  | 45 | 39 | 4 | 2 |
| Mid-September, 2008 | 9 |  | 41 | 36 | 11 | 3 |
| October, 2007 | 4 | 35 | 48 | 9 | 4 |  |
| Late November, 2006 | 6 | 37 | 45 | 7 | 5 |  |
| June, 2006 | 4 | 30 | 51 | 13 | 2 |  |

DEMJOB CONTINUED...

|  | Excellent |  | Good |  |  | Only fair |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


[^0]:    Type of Campaign Contact Urged to vote for... \%
    Republican candidates 22
    Democratic candidates 16
    Both 32
    Other/None/Don't know $\underline{18}$
    Total contacted by campaign 89
    PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 4-7, 2010. Q55. Based on registered voters.

[^1]:    2 For November 2006 and November 1998, "Don't know" and "Refused" responses are shown combined under "refused" response option.
    3 In Mid-October 2008, Early November 2006, Early October 2006, and Mid-October 2004 the question was worded AHow confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted in the upcoming election?@

[^2]:    4 In November 2008 the question was asked only of voters about making a choice between Presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama

[^3]:    5 In November 2004 the question was asked only of voters about making a choice between Presidential candidates George W . Bush and John Kerry.
    6 Presidential trends, from 2004, 2000, and 1996, are based only on those who voted, not all registered voters.
    7 In November 2006, the question read, "...that the Democratic Party won control of Congress?" In December 2002 the question was worded: AIn general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Senate? @ In November 1998 the question was worded: AAre you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S.
    Congress?@ In December 1994 question was worded: AGenerally, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican party won control of the U.S. Congress? ©

[^4]:    8 In September 1995 and December 1994, the question asked about ARepublican leaders in Congress.e In September 1995, the question was worded AIn 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? ©
    9 November 2008 trend is based on voters, not the general public. The question was rotated and figures are based only on those who received the question first in the rotation.
    10 In January 2007 and November 2006 the question was rotated. Figures are based only on those who received this question first in the rotation.

[^5]:    11 In 1994 the question read, "Would you like to see other candidates challenge Bill Clinton for the Democratic party's presidential nomination or not?"

[^6]:    12 In October 2010 surveys items were worded with "received," "been visited" and asked if had been contacted "so far."

[^7]:    13 In Early November 2002 and Early November 2000 the question was worded: ARecently, have you been contacted over the phone by any candidates, campaigns or other groups urging you to vote in a particular way in the upcoming elections? ©
    14 In 2006 surveys, respondents were asked if they had been contacted "over the phone," "in person by someone coming to your door," or "by email." Percentages are based on those who said yes to one or more of those items.

[^8]:    15 In October 2010 surveys, each item was written in past tense, ie "volunteered" and "attended."
    16 In late October, 2006 question was not part of a list and was worded: "Have you, yourself, volunteered any of your time to help one of the election campaigns this fall or not?"
    ${ }^{17}$ In late October, 2006 question was not part of a list and was worded: "Have you, yourself, contributed money to a campaign in support of a candidate in the elections this fall, or not?"

[^9]:    18 In June, 2008 item was asked as a stand-alone question and was worded: "Over the past 12 months, have you contributed money to any of the presidential candidates or not?"

[^10]:    191994 through 1996 trends from NBC News/Wall Street Journal polls and asked about President Clinton and Republicans in Congress.
    20 Item was worded "foreign affairs."

[^11]:    21 In November 1994 item asked about "Social Security and Medicare."
    22 In July, 2009, question was asked as part of a list that included items on: spending on education, spending on health care and spending to develop energy technology.
    23 In July 2010, March 2009, March 2006, July 2005, and July 1994 the question was part of a list. The question was not part of a list in February 2010.

[^12]:    24 In September, August and July the question asked about legislation passed "in March." In April, the question asked about the legislation passed "last month."
    25 In 2008 and earlier surveys, the question was worded "...tax cuts passed under President Bush over the past few years."

[^13]:    26
    In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party Protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

[^14]:    27 In October 2010 question asked about the upcoming election.

[^15]:    28 In presidential election years (2008, 2004, 2000, 1996), "presidential" was offered as an option.
    29 In 2000 and 1996, ballot issues were not offered as an option.

