

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS  
AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
EARLY OCTOBER 2006 TURNOUT SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
September 21 - October 4, 2006  
N=1804**

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

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

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

82	Yes, registered
78	Absolutely certain
3	Chance registration has lapsed
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
18	No, not registered
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

**IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '2' NO OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN REGIST, ASK [N=250]:**

NR.1 Have you previously been registered to vote, or have you never been registered?

47	Previously registered
53	Never registered
<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

NR.2 What would you say is the main reason you're not registered to vote? [OPEN END; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE THAN ONE]

	<i>Medill</i> <u>July 1996<sup>2</sup></u>
19	--
17	14
14	21
12	--
7	11
4	--
3	--
3	--
2	--
2	--
2	--
2	--
2	--
1	--
1	2

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2 The July 1996 survey was conducted by Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and WTTW public television. Based on first mention only.

**NR.2 CONTINUED...**

		<i>Medill</i>
		<u>July 1996</u>
	Place where have to go to register is inconvenient/	
1	too far from home	4
0	Don't know how to register	5
0	Work during voter registration hours	4
0	Registered and vote at a previous address	3
7	Other	35
7	No answer/DK/Ref	<u>3</u>
		102

**QUESTIONS 3 THROUGH 19 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE**

**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?

		<u>April</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>May</u>
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1987</u>
38	A great deal	33	29	33	28	25	34	23	24	25
39	A fair amount	42	49	46	45	48	46	51	45	45
18	Hardly any	21	20	18	23	25	18	24	27	25
<u>5</u>	DK/Ref (VOL)	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.21 Some people say they are basically content with the federal government, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?

		<u>March</u>	Mid-	<u>June</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Oct</u>
		<u>2004</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1997</u>
		<u>2004</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1997</u>
21	Basically content	32	53	28	33	29
54	Frustrated	52	34	53	54	56
20	Angry	13	8	13	10	12
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

Q.22 Now I am going to read you some statements. For each, please tell me whether you completely agree with it, mostly agree with it, mostly disagree with it or completely disagree with it. The first one is... **(READ ITEMS; RANDOMIZE)**

		<u>Completely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Completely</u>	<u>DK/</u>
		<u>Agree</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a.	I sometimes feel I don't know enough about the candidates to vote	20	40	21	17	2=100
b.	It matters more than usual who gets elected this year	42	31	16	8	3=100
c.	I'm sometimes too busy to vote	8	13	23	53	3=100
d.	It's difficult for me to get out to the polls to vote	7	8	21	62	2=100
e.	Voting doesn't really change things	9	14	27	48	2=100

**Q.22 CONTINUED...**

		Completely <u>Agree</u>	Mostly <u>Agree</u>	Mostly <u>Disagree</u>	Completely <u>Disagree</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
f.	I feel it's my duty as a citizen to always vote	70	20	5	4	1=100
g.	I'm generally bored by what goes on in Washington	13	23	34	28	2=100
h.	I'm pretty interested in following local politics	28	42	18	10	2=100
i.	Most issues discussed in Washington don't affect me personally	7	17	33	41	2=100
j.	I feel guilty when I don't get a chance to vote	40	22	14	18	6=100
k.	It's complicated to register to vote where I live	3	4	22	67	4=100

**QUESTIONS 23 THROUGH 33 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE**

**IF REGISTERED TO VOTE (REGICERT=1), ASK:**

Q.34 How confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted in the upcoming election? **[READ]**

**BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:**

		Mid-Oct <u>2004</u>
58	Very confident	62
29	Somewhat confident	26
9	Not too confident	7
3	Not at all confident	4
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

**IF NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE (REGIST=2,9 OR REGICERT=2,9), ASK:**

Q.35 If you were to vote this November, how confident are you that votes would be accurately counted? **[READ]**

**BASED ON NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE [N=301]:**

27	Very confident
37	Somewhat confident
17	Not too confident
15	Not at all confident
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**QUESTIONS 36 THROUGH 58 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

On a completely different subject...

Q.59 Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

		June <u>2003</u>	Mid-Nov <u>2001</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	June <u>1997</u>	Feb <u>1997</u>
41	Most people can be trusted	35	42	36	42	45
54	Can't be too careful	58	55	57	54	52
3	Other/Depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	4	2	6	3	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

And thinking about your personal life...

Q.60 When you need help, would you say that you can turn to many people for support, just a few people, or hardly any people for support?

		<b>(VOL)</b>				
		Many <u>People</u>	Just A Few	Hardly Any People	No One/ <u>None</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Early October, 2006		43	46	10	*	1=100
June, 2003		37	48	13	1	1=100
March, 2001		43	43	11	2	1=100
November, 1998		43	41	14	1	1=100
June, 1997		41	45	12	1	1=100
February, 1997		39	51	8	1	1=100

Thinking about your neighborhood for a moment...

Q.61 About how long have you lived in your NEIGHBORHOOD? Have you lived here less than one year, one to five years, six to ten years, 11 to 20 years, more than 20 years OR have you lived here all your life?

9	Less than one year
28	1-5 years
17	6-10 years
17	11-20 years
18	More than 20 years
11	All my life
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	

Q.62 Would you say that you know a lot of people in your neighborhood, some people, just a few, or hardly any?

39	A lot
26	Some
23	Just a few
11	Hardly any
1	None ( <b>VOL.</b> )
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**QUESTIONS 63 THROUGH 64 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

PVOTE04A In the 2004 presidential election between George W. Bush and John Kerry, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

**IF YES (1 IN PVOTE04A) ASK:**

PVOTE04B Did you vote for Bush, Kerry or someone else?

75	Voted
37	Bush
32	Kerry
3	Other candidate
*	Don't remember which candidate (VOL.)
3	Refused (VOL.)
24	Did not vote (includes too young to vote)
*	Don't remember if voted (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	

**IF NO (2 IN PVOTE04A), ASK [N=321]:**

PVOTE04C What was it that kept you from voting? [OPEN END; DO NOT READ; ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

		<i>Medill</i>
		<u>July 1996<sup>3</sup></u>
16	Not old enough	12
15	Not registered	20
12	Didn't like the candidates	12
11	Not interested in politics	10
7	No particular reason	10
6	Not a citizen	9
6	Working	4
5	Illness	2
4	Traveling	4
3	Busy	--
	No point in voting/my vote	
2	makes no difference	--
2	Felon	--
	No confidence in Gov't, politics	
2	or politicians	--
1	Religious reasons	--
1	No way to get to the polls	2
6	Other [SPECIFY]	12
3	No answer	<u>2</u>
		99

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3 The July 1996 survey was conducted by Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and WTTW public television. Based on first mention only. Asked about voting in the 1992 election.