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For The People & The Press

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Independents Back Democrats on Most Issues, Congressional Midterms
ECONOMIC PESSIMISM GROWS, GAS PRICES PINCH

- Support for Timetable on Iraq Withdrawal
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Independents Back Democrats on Most Issues, Congressional Midterms **ECONOMIC PESSIMISM GROWS, GAS PRICES PINCH**

A summer's worth of bad news, culminating with Hurricane Katrina, has taken a toll on the public's mood, particularly when it comes to views of the economy and energy costs. The public's economic expectations, while hardly robust in the spring, have grown much more negative. Nearly four-in-ten (37%) think economic conditions will be worse a year from now, up from 24% in May and 18% in January. At the same time, higher energy prices are now having a major impact on Americans' daily lives, with 70% saying they are driving less to save money on gas.

As was the case in the spring, Americans are largely critical of the overall performance of both major parties. But the Republicans face greater political dangers. In an early test of strength on next year's midterm elections, Republicans trail by 52%-40% among registered voters. Equally important, Democrats are favored on most major issues. Even on terrorism, which consistently has been a Republican strength, the GOP's advantage has narrowed.

Public support for the U.S. military effort in Iraq has held steady through the summer, despite ongoing violence in that country. Roughly half of Americans (51%) continue to support maintaining U.S. troops in Iraq until the situation there has stabilized. However, there is growing sentiment in favor of setting a timetable for withdrawing the troops – 57% favor that step now, up from 49% in July. Moreover, a steadily growing number of Americans feel Iraq will turn out to be another Vietnam. About four-in-ten (39%) express this view, compared with 29% a year ago.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press of 1,523 Americans, conducted Sept. 8-11, finds that rising energy prices have affected American lifestyles in a variety of ways. Nearly three-in-ten (27%) report they have bought a car that gets better gas mileage. And with winter three months off, 64% of Americans say they are adjusting their home thermostats to reduce energy bills.

The survey finds that the rise in energy prices also has had a perceptible impact on public views of the tradeoff between boosting the energy supply and protecting the environment. A solid

In Katrina's Aftermath

	Aug	Jan	May	Sept
<i>A year from now economy will be</i>	<u>04</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>05</u>
	%	%	%	%
Worse	9	18	24	37
Better	36	27	18	18
Same	47	52	55	43
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

	Aug	Nov	Sept
<i>Midterm Congress test ballot*</i>	<u>97</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>05</u>
	%	%	%
Vote Republican	45	44	40
Vote Democratic	48	44	52
Other/DK	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

	May	Sept
<i>Steps taken to deal w/ rising energy costs...</i>	<u>01</u>	<u>05</u>
	%	%
Been driving less	52	70
Shopped for best gas price	65	69
Adjusted thermostat	69	64
Avoided long driving trips	--	57
Bought car w/ better mileage	--	27
Car-pooling/mass transit	16	20

* Based on registered voters.

majority (57%) now says it is more important to develop new energy sources than to protect the environment, up from 49% who expressed that view in March. Support for oil and gas drilling in the Alaskan Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) also has gained, from 42% in March to 50% currently. Democrats, in particular, are much more receptive to drilling in the Alaska refuge.

<i>Allow oil/gas drilling in Alaska...</i>	<u>March</u>	<u>Sept</u>
	%	%
Total	42	50
Republican	63	64
Democrat	29	42
Independent	38	45

Yet the public also overwhelmingly supports government efforts to require better fuel efficiency from cars, trucks and SUVs. Fully 86% favor the government requiring improved efficiency; there is virtually no partisan difference on this issue. Sizable but smaller majorities back several other possible policies to address the energy situation, including price controls on fuel and energy (69%). But despite growing concern over energy supplies and prices, most Americans oppose the government promoting the increased use of nuclear power.

<i>Government policies to address U.S. energy supply...</i>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%
Require better auto fuel efficiency	86	12	2=100
Give tax cuts for alternative energy	73	22	5=100
Set price controls on energy	69	26	5=100
Increase funding for mass transit	68	27	5=100
Give tax cuts for oil exploration	52	44	4=100
Promote more nuclear power	39	53	8=100

For the most part, the public blames energy producers for rising gas prices, but many also fault the president. More than a third (36%) blame major oil companies, while 27% point to President Bush and his administration. About one-in-five (18%) blame OPEC, Middle Eastern countries, and other foreign oil producers. Just 36% express confidence that the president is taking the right approach to solving the nation's energy problems. Bush's overall job approval rating stands at 40%, unchanged since last week (Sept. 6-7).

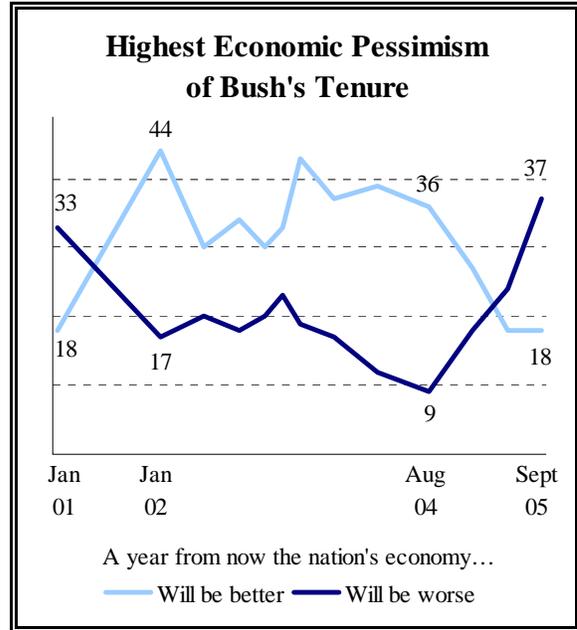
Economic Perceptions

More Americans hold a pessimistic outlook on the nation’s economic prospects than at any time during Bush’s presidency. By two-to-one (37%-18%), more believe the economy will be in worse shape a year from now than believe things will improve. In August 2004, just 9% said they expected the economy to worsen over the succeeding 12 months. That number doubled to 18% in January, and has doubled again (to 37%).

The public’s assessments of *current* economic conditions, while negative, have not declined since May. About three-in-ten (31%) rate economic conditions as good or excellent, while about twice as many view things as only fair or poor (68%). Opinion was similar in May (32% good/excellent, 67% only fair/poor).

Since January, pessimism about the direction of America’s economy has increased across the political spectrum, but has grown most among political independents. In January, somewhat more independents said the economy would get better over the following year than said it would get worse (24% vs. 17%). In the current survey, more than three times as many independents expect economic conditions to worsen over the next year as expect them to improve (42% vs. 12%).

This generally negative outlook exists across the economic spectrum. Among both wealthy and poor, more see the economy over the next year getting worse, not better, by a margin of roughly two-to-one.



<i>Economic outlook...</i>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
<i>...in January</i>	%	%	%
Worse	7	29	17
Better	43	14	24
Same	48	54	56
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100
<i>...in September</i>			
Worse	21	45	42
Better	31	11	12
Same	45	42	44
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Change in worse</i>	<i>+14</i>	<i>+16</i>	<i>+25</i>

Democratic Party Issue Advantage

The Democratic Party is widely seen as the party better able to handle a wide range of policy issues. In addition to favoring the Democratic Party on its traditional strengths such as reforming the health care system and protecting the environment, pluralities today also pick the Democrats to handle energy problems, Social Security, and education. On the important issues of the economy and Iraq, the public is more divided, with the Democrats holding only a slight edge. And on the issue of ensuring that the government can handle major disasters, 40% favor the Democrats, while 34% choose the Republicans.

Independents Prefer Democrats on Most Issues						
<i>Which can do a better job on...</i>	<i>General Public</i>			<i>Among Independents*</i>		
	<u>Rep Party</u>	<u>Dem Party</u>	<u>Dem Adv</u>	<u>Rep Party</u>	<u>Dem Party</u>	<u>Dem Adv</u>
	%	%		%	%	
Health care	28	51	+23	18	56	+38
Environment	28	51	+23	19	56	+37
Energy problems	31	44	+13	26	46	+20
Social Security	33	45	+12	29	44	+15
Education	35	44	+9	27	48	+21
Economy	38	44	+6	32	43	+11
Handling disasters	34	40	+6	28	39	+11
Iraq	38	43	+5	31	45	+14
Terrorism	45	34	-11	42	32	-10

* Based on 256 independents surveyed.

The single issue that still works to the Republican Party’s advantage is dealing with the terrorist threat at home – 45% say the Republicans can do a better job on this, while 34% choose the Democrats. But even here, the GOP’s edge has narrowed significantly as the Democrats have made gains. In the lead-up to the 2002 midterm the Republican Party held a two-to-one (44% vs. 22%) edge on this issue.

Much of the Democrats’ overall issue advantage can be attributed to the views of independents, who decidedly favor the Democratic Party’s leadership across nearly all issues. For example, the Democrats’ narrow 44%-35% edge on education overall reflects a more substantial 48%-27% advantage among independents. Similarly, independents clearly favor the Democratic Party’s approach to dealing with energy problems, the economy, and the situation in Iraq. And even more notably, when it comes to environmental and health care issues, independents have more faith in the Democrats than the Republicans by margins of roughly three-to-one.

If the Congressional Elections Were Held Today...			
	<u>Rep candidate</u>	<u>Dem candidate</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>
	%	%	%
Total	40	52	8=100
Conserv Rep	94	4	2=100
Mod/Lib Rep	75	18	7=100
Independent	27	55	18=100
Mod/Cons Dem	3	95	2=100
Liberal Dem	3	97	*=100

Based on registered voters.

The Democrats currently hold a 12-point advantage in the congressional horserace. While most partisans say they plan to stick with their party's candidate, independent voters currently lean Democratic by two-to-one (55% to 27%).

Democrats Dissatisfied with Party Leadership

Despite their issue advantages, Democratic leaders in Congress receive only a 36% job approval rating overall, the same rating given to their GOP counterparts. The low mark for Democratic leaders reflects significant dissatisfaction among their own partisans. Just 49% of Democrats approve of the job their leaders are doing in Congress, down from 64% in May. By comparison, 72% of Republicans approve of the job their congressional leaders are doing. Independents, on balance, disapprove of both parties' congressional leadership.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
<i>Rep leaders</i>	%	%	%	%
Approve	36	72	11	28
Disapprove	49	16	75	57
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Dem leaders</i>				
Approve	36	27	49	34
Disapprove	45	59	32	48
Don't know	<u>19</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>
	100	100	100	100

Democrats have expressed a good deal of dissatisfaction with the direction of their party in Washington since George W. Bush took office, but this sentiment has become particularly widespread since the 2004 election. Currently, 63% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents say the party is doing only a fair or a poor job standing up for its traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people. Barely a third give the party excellent (3%) or good (32%) marks.

	<i>Republican Party*</i>		<i>Democratic Party**</i>	
	Excel- lent/ <u>Good</u>	Only fair/ <u>Poor</u>	Excel- lent/ <u>Good</u>	Only fair/ <u>Poor</u>
	%	%	%	%
Sept 2005	48	49	35	63
Mar 2005	51	45	33	65
July 2004	61	37	49	48
Aug 2003	57	42	38	60
May 2002	55	43	44	53
May 2001	60	37	47	47
Sept 2000	49	49	63	36

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

While less critical than the Democrats, Republicans, too, have become increasingly disillusioned with the job their party is doing standing up for its traditional positions on such things as reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values. The percentage of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who rate the party favorably has fallen from 61% just over a year ago to 48% today. This is the lowest level of GOP satisfaction on this question since before Bush took office.

Fallout for Incumbents

Overall, most registered voters (57%) say they would like to see their representative in Congress reelected in 2006, while 25% say they want their representative replaced. At the same time, only 36% say they want to see *most* members return for another term, while nearly half (48%) want to see most members of Congress voted out next year. The latter is among the highest levels of dissatisfaction with Congress measured by the Pew Research Center in the last decade, exceeded only by pre-election polls in 1994 when clear majorities wanted most members to lose their jobs.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%	%
Yes	36	49	29	29
No	48	32	57	59
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100

Much of the dissatisfaction behind these figures comes from Democrats and independents. By a 57% to 29% margin, a majority of Democrats say they want most of Congress replaced, and independents agree (by a 59% to 29% margin). Roughly half of Republicans (49%) say they want to see most members keep their jobs. But even among Republicans, nearly a third (32%) say they would like to see most incumbents voted out.

Energy vs. Environment

A solid majority of Americans (57%) rate developing new energy sources as a higher priority than protecting the environment. That represents a modest change from recent years, when slightly fewer than half viewed developing energy sources as a greater priority.

There has been a comparable shift in views on whether it is more important to expand energy exploration or increase conservation. Opinion tilts slightly in favor of conservation (by 48%-43%), but by a smaller margin than in 2002.

	<u>May</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Sept</u>
	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>
	%	%	%	%
<i>Higher priority for country ...</i>				
Protecting environment	42	45	42	36
Developing new energy sources	49	48	49	57
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>More important priority for U.S. energy policy ...</i>				
Expand exploration/ construct new power plants	44	37	--	43
More energy conservation/ energy regulations	49	54	--	48
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	--	<u>9</u>
	100	100		100

Young people, in particular, now view developing new energy sources as a more important priority than protecting the environment. Currently, 58% of those ages 18-29 say developing new energy sources is a more important priority than protecting the environment; in March, a narrow majority of young people rated environmental protection as the more important priority. Similarly, 63% of college graduates now view energy development as a more important priority than environmental protection; in March, 50% expressed that view.

On a related issue, most Americans (52%) say trying to find new energy supplies should take precedence over controlling rising gas prices and dealing with current energy shortages. But somewhat more rate controlling prices as a higher priority than did so in May 2001, when there was also intense focus on energy (36% now vs. 31% then).

	<u>March</u> %	<u>Sept</u> %	<u>Change</u>
Total	49	57	+8
18-29	38	58	+20
30-49	51	54	+3
50-64	59	59	0
65+	50	60	+10
College grad	50	63	+13
Some college	60	62	+2
High school or less	45	52	+7
Republican	64	69	+5
Democrat	41	48	+7
Independent	50	55	+5

Who's to Blame?

When the public is asked who is most to blame for rising gas prices, a plurality (36%) points to major oil companies. More than a quarter (27%) say the president or his administration is most to blame for the price hike. OPEC and other foreign oil producers also get a share of the blame (18%). About one-in-ten (9%) blame Hurricane Katrina, while about as many (8%) blame people who own SUVs and other low gas mileage vehicles.

In another sign of public skepticism toward major oil companies, 73% of Americans say that the current high price of gas is the result of companies taking advantage of the situation, rather than because of real shortages in the oil supply.

	%
Oil companies	36
President Bush/Administration	27
OPEC/Foreign oil producers	18
Hurricane Katrina	9
Consumers/gas guzzling cars	8
Congress	4
Other	14
Don't know	10

* Figures add to more than 100% because respondents could mention up to two reasons.

Fuel Efficiency: Principle and Practice

Roughly half of Americans (48%) say that, if the U.S. is to become less dependent on oil, it is very important for people now driving SUVs to switch to more fuel-efficient vehicles. That is slightly more than the number expressing that opinion in a November 2001 poll by *Newsweek* (42%).

People ages 65 and older, in particular, feel it is very important for SUV drivers to shift to vehicles with better gas mileage. Nearly six-in-ten senior citizens say this, compared with about half of those ages 50-64 (51%) and fewer of those younger than 50 (44%).

Democrats and independents also are much more likely than Republicans to place great importance on SUV drivers moving to more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Overall, about three-in-ten Americans (27%) say that, in dealing with higher energy costs, they have bought a car that gets better gas mileage. Interestingly, there are only modest demographic differences on this measure, although Americans ages 65 and older are somewhat less likely than younger people to have done this.

There are bigger differences among political groups, however. About four-in-ten liberal Democrats (39%) say they have bought a car that gets better gas mileage, the highest proportion in any political/ideological group.

	<u>Very</u> %	<u>Some- what</u> %	<u>Not at all</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	48	31	18	3=100
18-29	44	36	17	3=100
30-49	44	34	20	2=100
50-64	51	25	21	3=100
65+	59	26	9	6=100
Republican	37	36	25	2=100
Democrat	53	29	14	4=100
Independent	54	30	15	1=100

	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>Other/ DK</u> %
Total	27	69	4=100
18-29	30	67	3=100
30-49	26	71	3=100
50-64	31	66	3=100
65+	22	67	11=100
Conserv Rep	20	75	5=100
Mod/Lib Rep	27	68	5=100
Independent	28	68	4=100
Mod/Cons Dem	28	67	5=100
Liberal Dem	39	57	4=100

Core Iraq Attitudes Stable...

Despite a long summer with continued casualties, and a widely covered anti-war protest outside the president's vacation ranch, public attitudes on the war in Iraq are remarkable for their overall stability. Most continue to see the military effort in Iraq going either very (12%) or fairly (41%) well, and the proportion that says taking military action there was the right decision has held steady at 49%, while 44% think it was the wrong decision. A slim 51% majority believes the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, while 45% want to bring troops home as soon as possible.

An equal number believes that military action in Iraq has helped the war on terrorism as say it has hurt. This represents a slight improvement since July, but is consistent with most measures taken since mid-2004 that show the public divided on this question.

...But Growing Call for Timetable

But public optimism about the long-term continues to wane, and support for setting a timetable for when U.S. troops will be withdrawn from Iraq has risen notably. The proportion of Americans who think the situation in Iraq is likely to turn out to be like Vietnam rose from 29% a year ago to 35% this June to 39% today. This shift has been most pronounced among independents and younger people. A year ago, just 29% of independents saw Iraq turning into another Vietnam; today, a 46% plurality expresses this view. And the number of Americans under age 30 who foresee Iraq becoming another Vietnam has doubled from 22% to 42% over the same time period.

In this regard, the most notable shift in public opinion about the situation in Iraq over the summer is increasing support for the idea of setting

Most Views on Iraq Unchanged		
<i>Using force in Iraq</i>	<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>
	%	%
Right decision	49	49
Wrong decision	44	44
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100
<i>Military effort is going...</i>		
Very well	14	12
Fairly well	38	41
Not too well	27	26
Not at all well	17	18
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100
<i>What to do now?</i>		
Keep troops in	52	51
Bring troops home	43	45
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
<i>Iraq war effect on war on terrorism</i>		
Helped	39	43
Hurt	47	43
No effect (vol)	7	6
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100

Shifting Expectations			
	<u>Sept</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Sept</u>
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>
<i>Situation in Iraq</i>	%	%	%
Will be another Vietnam	29	35	39
U.S. will accomplish its goals	54	47	48
Too early to tell (vol)	4	7	5
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Set a timetable for troop withdrawal?</i>		<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>
Yes	--	49	57
No	--	45	37
Get out now (vol)	--	*	1
Don't know	--	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
		100	100

a timetable for troop withdrawal, from 49% in July to 57% today. The idea of a timetable has opened up a rare fissure among typically unified Republicans. Currently, a 58% majority of moderate and liberal Republicans say the U.S. should set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq, up from 36% two months ago. By comparison, a 58% majority of conservative Republicans oppose the idea of setting such a timetable.

Timetable Divides Republicans			
	<i>Favor Iraq timetable</i>		
	<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Change</u>
	%	%	
Total	49	57	+8
Conserv Rep	28	37	+9
Mod/Lib Rep	36	58	+22
Independent	54	57	+3
Mod/Cons Dem	61	72	+11
Liberal Dem	63	70	+7

Bush and Democrats Faulted on Iraq

By two-to-one (63% to 30%), most Americans believe George W. Bush does not have a clear plan for bringing the situation in Iraq to a successful conclusion – but even fewer believe that Democratic leaders in Congress are providing a clear alternative. Just 18% say Democrats have a clear alternative for how to deal with the situation in Iraq, while 71% say they do not.

While Bush rates better than Democrats, this is due to his strong backing among Republicans. Most independents are skeptical about the strategy offered by both Bush and the Democrats. Just 19% of independents say Bush has a clear plan for how to succeed, and only 16% say Democratic leaders in Congress have a clear alternative for how to deal with the situation. Nearly two-thirds of Republicans (64%) express confidence in Bush’s plan, while barely a quarter of Democrats (26%) believe Democratic leaders have a clear alternative.

Neither Party Has Solution to Iraq Situation				
<i>Bush has a clear plan</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%	%
Yes	30	64	10	19
No	63	29	86	75
Don’t know	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Democrats have a clear alternative</i>				
Yes	18	11	26	16
No	71	81	61	74
Don’t know	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100

Divided Views on Troop Resources

Nearly half of Americans (49%) believe that U.S. troops in Iraq do not have the resources and equipment they need to fight the war effectively, while 44% say that they do. Not surprisingly, there is a wide partisan divide on the issue, with most Republicans expressing the view that supplies are adequate, and Democrats and independents agreeing that they are not.

The public remains skeptical that democracy can succeed in Iraq if Islamic religious leaders are elected to positions of power. Nearly half (47%) say democracy will not take hold under these circumstances, up from 40% in February. Roughly a third (34%) believe democracy can succeed.

Republicans are slightly more optimistic than Democrats and independents on this question, but the larger divide is generational. While pluralities in all age groups say democracy cannot succeed if Islamic religious leaders are elected to positions of power, 42% of Americans under age 30 believe democracy can work if this happens, compared with 36% of people age 30-49, 31% of people age 50-64 and just 24% of people age 65 and older.

There are widely disparate views on how America should approach the issue of women’s rights in Iraq as the government there establishes its constitution and laws. One-in-five say the U.S. should *insist* that a new Iraqi government provide equal rights for women, while 29% believe we should not get involved in the issue at all. The more accepted option is a middle position – that the U.S. should encourage equal rights for women but leave it up to the Iraqis to decide.

Interestingly, there is no gender gap on this question – men and women express nearly identical positions. Pluralities of Democrats and independents – and a solid majority of Republicans – feel the U.S. should encourage equal rights for women, but let the Iraqis decide the issue. But Democrats and independents are more likely than Republicans to say that the U.S. shouldn’t get involved.

Other Views on Iraq				
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
<i>Do troops have resources they need?</i>	%	%	%	%
Yes	44	61	33	39
No	49	32	58	57
Don’t know	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Can democracy succeed if Islamic leaders are in power?</i>				
Yes	34	39	31	33
No	47	39	51	52
Don’t know	<u>19</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>How should U.S. approach women’s rights in Iraq?</i>				
Insist on equal rights	20	21	23	18
Encourage equal rights, but let Iraqi’s decide	49	57	45	46
Don’t get involved	29	21	31	34
Don’t know	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 1,523 adults, 18 years of age or older, from Sept. 8-11, 2005. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on form 1 (N=758) and form 2 (N=765) the sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points. The survey sample excluded 20 counties located along coastal Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama which constitutes 1% of the population (including the cities of New Orleans, Gulfport and Pascagoula in Mississippi, and Mobile, Alabama).

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.

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TREND: ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY PRIORITIES

	-----Mid-March 2005-----			-----September 2005-----			Change in	
	Develop		DK/Ref	Develop		DK/Ref	new sources	(N)
	Protect the environment	new energy sources		Protect the environment	new energy sources			
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Total	42	49	9=100	36	57	7=100	+8	(1523)
Sex								
Male	40	52	8	33	59	8	+7	(750)
Female	44	47	9	39	54	7	+7	(773)
Race								
White	39	52	9	31	61	8	+9	(1235)
Non-white	55	40	5	52	40	8	0	(262)
Black*	53	41	6	58	35	7	-6	(152)
Race and Sex								
White Men	36	54	10	27	65	8	+11	(600)
White Women	42	50	8	35	58	7	+8	(635)
Age								
Under 30	51	38	11	38	58	4	+20	(185)
30-49	44	51	5	37	54	9	+3	(530)
50-64	31	59	10	34	59	7	0	(453)
65+	40	50	10	29	60	11	+10	(327)
Sex and Age								
Men under 50	44	48	8	35	57	8	+9	(376)
Women under 50	49	45	6	40	54	6	+9	(339)
Men 50+	33	58	9	27	65	8	+7	(362)
Women 50+	36	53	11	37	55	8	+2	(418)
Education								
College Grad.	39	50	11	30	63	7	+13	(596)
Some College	33	60	7	32	62	6	+2	(369)
H.S. Grad or less	48	45	7	40	52	9	+7	(546)
Family Income								
\$75,000+	43	50	7	30	64	6	+14	(373)
\$50,000-\$74,999	37	58	5	27	62	11	+4	(257)
\$30,000-\$49,999	40	54	6	33	62	5	+8	(330)
\$20,000-\$29,999	40	48	12	40	53	7	+5	(173)
<\$20,000	53	40	7	47	44	9	+4	(209)

* Note: Mid-March 2005 has a small sample size.

Question: Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be a more important priority for this country...Protecting the environment OR developing new sources of energy?

Continued on next page...

	-----Mid-March 2005-----			-----September 2005-----			Change in	
	Develop		DK/Ref	Develop		DK/Ref	develop	
	Protect the environment	new energy sources		Protect the environment	new energy sources		new sources	(N)
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Total	42	49	9=100	36	57	7=100	+8	(1523)
Region								
Northeast	41	47	12	35	56	9	+9	(289)
Midwest	40	53	7	33	61	6	+8	(345)
South	42	50	8	38	55	7	+5	(556)
West	46	47	7	36	56	8	+9	(333)
Religious Affiliation								
Total White Protestant	39	53	8	26	66	8	+13	(621)
- Evangelical	38	55	7	23	69	8	+14	(300)
- Non-Evangelical	41	50	9	30	62	8	+12	(321)
White Catholic	28	62	10	29	66	5	+4	(232)
Seculars	51	42	7	35	55	10	+13	(166)
Party ID								
Republican	28	64	8	24	69	7	+5	(482)
Democrat	51	41	8	46	48	6	+7	(463)
Independent	44	50	6	37	55	8	+5	(506)
Party and Ideology								
Conservative Rep.	21	70	9	19	75	6	+5	(343)
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	43	51	6	34	57	9	+6	(134)
Conservative/Mod Dem.	47	45	8	45	49	6	+4	(310)
Liberal Democrat	58	35	7	47	47	6	+12	(143)
Presidential Approval								
Approve	32	61	7	26	66	8	+5	(633)
Disapprove	53	39	8	42	51	7	+12	(783)
Use of Force in Iraq								
Right Decision	--	--	--	29	64	7	--	(727)
Wrong Decision	--	--	--	42	51	7	--	(703)
Marital Status								
Married	36	55	9	30	61	9	+6	(890)
Unmarried	49	44	7	42	52	6	+8	(613)
Labor Union								
Union household	--	--	--	31	63	6	--	(201)
Non-union household	--	--	--	36	56	8	--	(1295)

TREND: ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY A YEAR FROM NOW

	-----January 2005-----				-----Mid-September 2005-----				Change in Worse
	Better %	Worse %	Same %	DK/Ref %	Better %	Worse %	Same %	DK/Ref %	
Total	27	18	52	3=100	18	37	43	2=100	+19
Sex									
Male	29	16	53	2	22	34	42	2	+18
Female	25	20	52	3	14	39	44	3	+19
Race									
White	28	16	53	3	19	36	43	2	+20
Non-white	22	27	48	3	15	41	42	2	+14
Black	16	29	52	4	11	42	45	2	+13
Hispanic*	29	16	52	3	25	30	45	0	+14
Race and Sex									
White Men	30	15	52	3	24	33	41	2	+18
White Women	26	16	55	3	15	37	45	3	+21
Age									
Under 30	31	16	51	2	22	33	44	1	+17
30-49	25	20	53	2	16	43	39	2	+23
50-64	26	17	53	4	16	38	43	2	+21
65+	28	15	51	6	23	24	50	3	+9
Sex and Age									
Men under 50	30	16	52	2	23	34	41	2	+18
Women under 50	24	21	53	2	13	44	40	3	+23
Men 50+	27	15	54	4	22	32	44	2	+17
Women 50+	27	18	50	5	16	32	49	3	+14
Education									
College Grad.	31	15	52	2	19	35	44	2	+20
Some College	26	21	50	3	24	37	38	1	+16
H.S. Grad	28	17	52	3	17	34	45	4	+17
Less than H.S. Grad.	16	18	59	7	10	45	42	3	+27
Family Income									
\$75,000+	35	17	47	1	22	36	41	1	+19
\$50,000-\$74,999	24	20	55	1	18	35	45	2	+15
\$30,000-\$49,999	26	13	57	4	16	41	41	2	+28
\$20,000-\$29,999	21	17	59	3	19	42	39	*	+25
<\$20,000	22	23	51	4	16	38	43	3	+15

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

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

Continued on next page...

	-----January 2005-----				-----Mid-September 2005-----				<i>Change in</i>
	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Worse</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	27	18	52	3=100	18	37	43	2=100	+19
Region									
Northeast	27	21	50	3	16	36	46	2	+15
Midwest	22	20	56	2	20	34	44	2	+14
South	28	16	52	4	17	38	43	2	+22
West	30	17	51	2	19	37	41	3	+20
Religious Affiliation									
Total White Protestant	29	14	54	3	20	35	42	3	+21
- Evangelical	33	14	50	3	20	32	44	4	+18
- Non-Evangelical	26	15	56	3	19	40	40	1	+25
White Catholic	28	14	55	3	20	29	49	2	+15
Seculars	26	25	48	1	16	41	41	2	+16
Party ID									
Republican	43	7	48	2	31	21	45	3	+14
Democrat	14	29	54	3	11	45	42	2	+16
Independent	24	17	56	3	12	42	44	2	+25
Party and Ideology									
Conservative Republican	48	6	44	2	33	18	46	3	+12
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	36	9	52	3	28	28	40	4	+19
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	14	26	58	2	12	44	42	2	+18
Liberal Democrat	14	32	52	2	9	44	45	2	+12
Presidential Approval									
Approve	42	6	49	3	31	23	43	3	+17
Disapprove	10	31	56	3	10	46	42	2	+15
Use of Force in Iraq									
Right Decision	41	7	49	3	26	27	45	2	+20
Wrong Decision	12	30	56	2	10	47	41	2	+17
Marital Status									
Married	28	16	53	3	19	36	42	3	+20
Unmarried	25	20	52	3	18	36	44	2	+16
Labor Union									
Union household	22	23	52	3	15	46	38	1	+23
Non-union household	28	17	52	3	19	35	44	2	+18
Registered Voter									
Yes	27	18	52	3	19	34	45	2	+16
No	23	18	55	4	17	42	37	4	+24

2006 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION, GENERIC CANDIDATE PREFERENCE

(Based on Registered Voters)

	<u>Republican /</u> <u>Lean Republican</u>	<u>Democrat /</u> <u>Lean Democrat</u>	<u>Other /</u> <u>Undecided</u>
	%	%	%
Total	40	52	8=100
Sex			
Male	42	48	10
Female	38	55	7
Race			
White	45	47	8
Non-white	16	77	7
Black	4	88	8
Race and Sex			
White Men	47	43	10
White Women	43	50	7
Age			
Under 30	39	57	4
30-49	41	51	8
50-64	42	50	8
65+	36	52	12
Sex and Age			
Men under 50	45	46	9
Women under 50	37	58	5
Men 50+	39	51	10
Women 50+	39	51	10
Education			
College Grad.	43	50	7
Some College	45	47	8
H.S. Grad or less	36	55	9
Family Income			
\$75,000+	50	44	6
\$50,000-\$74,999	45	46	9
\$30,000-\$49,999	36	53	11
\$20,000-\$29,999	38	58	4
<\$20,000	23	69	8

Question: If the 2006 Elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

	<u>Republican /</u> <u>Lean Republican</u>	<u>Democrat /</u> <u>Lean Democrat</u>	<u>Other /</u> <u>Undecided</u>
	%	%	%
Total	40	52	8=100
Region			
Northeast	43	50	7
Midwest	39	54	7
South	39	51	10
West	37	54	9
Religious Affiliation			
Total White Protestant	53	40	7
- Evangelical	60	34	6
- Non-Evangelical	45	47	8
White Catholic	49	41	10
Seculars	22	69	9
Party ID			
Republican	89	8	3
Democrat	3	96	1
Independent	27	55	18
Party and Ideology			
Conservative Republican	94	4	2
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	75	18	7
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	3	95	2
Liberal Democrat	3	97	*
Presidential Approval			
Approve	79	14	7
Disapprove	10	81	9
Use of Force in Iraq			
Right Decision	67	27	6
Wrong Decision	12	79	9
Marital Status			
Married	49	43	8
Unmarried	28	64	8
Confirm Roberts as Chief Justice			
Yes	61	34	5
No	12	81	7

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MID-SEPTEMBER 2005 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
September 8-11, 2005
N=1,523

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

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

ROTATE Q.2 AND Q.3

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15=100	April, 1996	39	46	15=100
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15=100	March, 1996	35	51	14=100
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17=100	February, 1996	33	53	14=100
Early February, 2004	41	42	17=100	January, 1996	36	54	10=100
January, 2003	48	37	15=100	October, 1995	36	51	13=100
June, 2002	50	34	16=100	September, 1995	36	50	14=100
May, 2002	49	34	17=100	August, 1995	38	45	17=100
February, 2002	56	24	20=100	June, 1995	41	45	14=100
Early September, 2001	43	39	18=100	April, 1995	44	43	13=100
June, 2001	40	40	20=100	March, 1995	43	39	18=100
May, 2001	45	36	19=100	December, 1994	52	28	20=100
April, 2001	45	30	25=100				
January, 2001	43	36	21=100				
July, 2000	36	46	18=100				
May, 2000	40	42	18=100				
March, 2000	38	43	19=100				
February, 2000	40	43	17=100				
January, 2000	39	41	20=100				
December, 1999	38	42	20=100				
October, 1999	34	50	16=100				
Late September, 1999	34	46	20=100				
August, 1999	40	44	16=100				
July, 1999	36	45	19=100				
June, 1999	37	46	17=100				
May, 1999	38	44	18=100				
March, 1999	38	47	15=100				
February, 1999	37	51	12=100				
January, 1999	38	50	12=100				
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100				
November, 1998	41	48	11=100				
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100				
Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100				
June, 1998	42	38	20=100				
May, 1998	40	41	19=100				
April, 1998	41	40	19=100				
March, 1998	43	39	18=100				
January, 1998	43	41	16=100				
November, 1997	41	43	16=100				
August, 1997	42	44	14=100				
June, 1997	33	50	17=100				
May, 1997	40	44	16=100				
April, 1997	40	44	16=100				
February, 1997	44	42	14=100				
January, 1997	38	47	15=100				
November, 1996	40	43	17=100				
July, 1996	38	48	14=100				
June, 1996	36	50	14=100				

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 2001	49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100

NO QUESTIONS 4-10

Q.11 If the 2006 elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

IF ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.11, ASK:

Q.11a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1279]:

	<u>Rep/ Lean Rep</u>	<u>Dem/ Lean Dem</u>	<u>Other/ Undecided</u>		<u>Rep/ Lean Rep</u>	<u>Dem/ Lean Dem</u>	<u>Other/ Undecided</u>
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8=100	1996 Election			
2004 Election				November, 1996 ¹	44	48	8=100
June, 2004	41	48	11=100	October, 1996	42	49	9=100
2002 Election				Late September, 1996	43	49	8=100
Early November, 2002	42	46	12=100	Early September, 1996	43	51	6=100
Early October, 2002	44	46	10=100	July, 1996	46	47	7=100
Early September, 2002	44	46	10=100	June, 1996	44	50	6=100
June, 2002	44	46	10=100	March, 1996	44	49	7=100
February, 2002	46	45	9=100	January, 1996	46	47	7=100
Early November, 2001	44	44	12=100	October, 1995	48	48	4=100
2000 Election				August, 1995	50	43	7=100
Early November, 2000	42	48	10=100	1994 Election			
Early October, 2000	43	47	10=100	November, 1994	45	43	12=100
July, 2000	43	47	10=100	Late October, 1994	47	44	9=100
February, 2000	44	47	9=100	Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
October, 1999	43	49	8=100	September, 1994	48	46	6=100
June, 1999	40	50	10=100	July, 1994	45	47	8=100
1998 Election							
Late October, 1998	40	47	13=100				
Early October, 1998	43	44	13=100				
Early September, 1998	45	46	9=100				
Late August, 1998	44	45	11=100				
Early August, 1998	42	49	9=100				
June, 1998	44	46	10=100				
March, 1998	40	52	8=100				
February, 1998	41	50	9=100				
January, 1998	41	51	8=100				
August, 1997	45	48	7=100				

¹ November 1996 trend based on likely voters.

NO QUESTIONS 12 & 13

ASK ALL:

Q.14 Would you like to see your representative in Congress be re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1279]: (VOL)

	Congressperson			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not running</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Mid-September, 2005	57	25	1	17=100
Early October, 2002	58	19	2	21=100
June, 2002	58	23	1	18=100
Early November, 2000	59	16	2	23=100
October, 2000	60	17	1	22=100
July, 1999	66	23	*	11=100
Late October, 1998	64	19	1	16=100
Early October, 1998	58	20	2	20=100
Early September, 1998	63	20	1	16=100
March, 1998	63	21	1	15=100
January, 1998	66	23	0	11=100
August, 1997	66	22	0	12=100
Early November, 1996	60	16	3	21=100
October, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
Late September, 1996	55	17	2	26=100
Early September, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
November, 1994	58	25	1	16=100
October, 1994	55	30	2	13=100
Early October, 1994	49	29	2	20=100
Gallup: October 1990	62	22	2	14=100

Q.15 Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1279]:

		Early		July	Late	Early		March	Jan	Aug	Early		Late	
		Oct	June			Oct	Oct				Sept	Sept	Nov	Oct
		<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>
36	Yes	39	45	40	41	41	39	46	45	44	45	43	31	31
48	No	38	37	34	47	37	39	36	41	43	42	43	51	56
<u>16</u>	DK/Ref.	<u>23</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=758]:

Q.16F1 Next, please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do a better job in each of the following areas... (First,) which party could do a better job of...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**

a.		(VOL.)				
		Republican Party	Democratic Party	Both Equally	(VOL.) Neither	Don't Know
	Dealing with the economy	38	44	5	7	6=100
	July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12=100
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13=100

Q.16F1 CONTINUED ...

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	Don't
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Know</u>
Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13=100
January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18=100
May, 2001 ²	33	44	8	5	10=100
June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9=100
March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9=100
Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10=100
March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5=100
October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10=100
October, 1992 <i>Gallup (RVs)</i>	36	45	10	--	9=100
October, 1990 <i>Gallup</i>	37	35	--	--	28=100
b. Making wise decisions about					
what to do in Iraq	38	43	5	6	8=100
July, 2004	38	40	4	6	12=100
Late October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	42	33	6	6	13=100
Early October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	46	30	7	4	13=100
c. Dealing with the terrorist threat at home					
July, 2004	45	34	7	6	8=100
Late October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	44	27	11	6	13=100
Early October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	44	28	7	5	12=100
Early September, 2002	44	22	14	6	14=100
January, 2002	48	18	--	6	28=100
d. Dealing with the nation's energy problems					
May, 2001	31	44	6	8	11=100
	36	34	10	7	13=100
e. Reforming the U.S. health care system					
July, 2004	28	51	4	10	7=100
Early July, 2003	23	50	4	10	13=100
January, 2002 ³	31	38	6	10	15=100
January, 2001	20	45	--	6	29=100
January, 1999	30	47	--	7	16=100
Early September, 1998	25	46	--	7	22=100
March, 1998	31	43	7	7	12=100
October, 1994	25	53	6	8	8=100
July, 1994	34	41	5	10	10=100
December, 1993	34	48	2	8	8=100
January, 1992	25	47	--	10	18=100
May, 1990	21	56	--	8	15=100
	20	50	--	16	14=100

² In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous?"

³ From 1999 to 2002, the item was listed as "...regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans" and the question was worded: "Please tell me which party you think has the best ideas... the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?" In December 1993 question was worded "Reforming health care." In January 1992 and May 1990 the question was worded "improving health care in the U.S."

Q.16F1 CONTINUED ...

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	Don't
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Know</u>
f. Protecting the environment	28	51	5	7	9=100
July, 2004	24	51	5	6	14=100
Early September, 2002	25	46	9	6	14=100
May, 2001	25	51	7	4	13=100
June, 1999	27	45	7	5	16=100
Early September, 1998	25	51	8	4	12=100
March, 1998	22	56	8	5	9=100
July, 1994	28	56	4	4	8=100
December, 1993	22	46	--	12	20=100
May, 1990	24	40	--	19	17=100
g. Improving the educational system	35	44	6	7	8=100
July, 2004	29	45	7	7	12=100
January, 2002	37	34	--	6	23=100
May, 2001	36	38	11	6	9=100
January, 2001	40	41	--	7	12=100
June, 1999	29	52	7	5	7=100
March, 1999	33	46	6	5	10=100
January, 1999	26	46	--	7	21=100
Early September, 1998	34	42	10	4	10=100
March, 1998	29	49	10	5	7=100
July, 1994	37	46	4	5	8=100
January, 1992	28	48	--	10	14=100
May, 1990	30	42	--	14	14=100
h. Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	33	45	6	9	7=100
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	31	42	6	9	12=100
Early September, 2002	30	38	8	10	14=100
May, 2002	32	38	--	9	21=100
January, 2002	28	40	--	6	26=100
May, 2001 ⁴	35	43	6	5	11=100
January, 2001	36	44	--	7	13=100
June, 1999	33	41	4	9	13=100
January, 1999	27	46	--	7	20=100
Early September, 1998	37	42	7	5	9=100
May, 1990	28	41	--	16	15=100
i. Ensuring that the government can handle major disasters	34	40	8	9	9=100

⁴ For May 2001, June 1999, Early September 1998 and May 1990, the question was worded, "Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job in each of the following areas ... keeping Social Security financially sound?"

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.17 Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be a more important priority for this country... [READ AND ROTATE]

		Mid-March <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2002</u>	May <u>2001</u>
36	Protecting the environment [OR]	42	45	42
57	Developing new sources of energy	49	48	49
<u>7</u>	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100

QUESTIONS 18 AND 19 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Q.20 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1=100
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1=100
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1=100
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1=100
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2=100
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1=100
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2=100
Late February, 2004	2	29	42	26	1=100
February 9-12, 2004 (Gallup)	2	31	46	21	0=100
January 12-15, 2004 (Gallup)	3	34	42	21	0=100
January 2-5, 2004 (Gallup)	3	40	41	16	*=100
December 11-14, 2003 (Gallup)	3	34	44	19	*=100
November 3-5, 2003 (Gallup)	2	28	49	21	*=100
October 24-26, 2003 (Gallup)	2	24	44	30	*=100
October 6-8, 2003 (Gallup)	2	20	50	27	1=100
September 8-10, 2003 (Gallup)	1	20	49	30	*=100
August 4-6, 2003 (Gallup)	1	24	52	23	*=100
February 17-19, 2003 (Gallup)	1	17	48	34	*=100
February 4-6, 2002 (Gallup)	2	26	55	16	1=100
March 5-7, 2001 (Gallup)	3	43	43	10	1=100
January 7-10, 2000 (Gallup)	19	52	23	5	1=100
January 15-17, 1999 (Gallup)	14	55	27	4	*=100
March 20-22, 1998 (Gallup)	20	46	27	7	*=100
Jan 31 - Feb 2, 1997 (Gallup)	4	38	43	15	*=100
March 15-17, 1996 (Gallup)	2	31	48	18	1=100
May 11-14, 1995 (Gallup)	2	27	50	20	1=100
January 15-17, 1994 (Gallup)	*	22	54	24	*=100
February 12-14, 1993 (Gallup)	*	14	46	39	1=100
January 3-6, 1992 (Gallup)	*	12	46	41	1=100

Q.21 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

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

NO QUESTIONS 22-29

QUESTIONS 30 THROUGH 39 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.40 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (<i>RVs</i>)	48	41	11=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100

Q.40 CONTINUED...

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>8=100</i>
<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>7=100</i>
Late January, 1991	77	15	9=100

Q.41 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? [READ IN ORDER]

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6=100
Early September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4=100
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3=100
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3=100
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4=100
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3=100
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4=100
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4=100
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2=100
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3=100
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3=100
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5=100
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3=100
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4=100
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3=100
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3=100
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7=100</i>

Q.42 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 ⁵	51	44	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

Q.43 Do you think George W. Bush has a clear plan for bringing the situation in Iraq to a successful conclusion, or don't you think so?

	Has a clear <u>plan</u>	Doesn't have <u>a clear plan</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	30	63	7=100
July, 2005	27	64	9=100
February, 2005	32	61	7=100
Early October, 2004	35	55	10=100
Early September, 2004	36	55	9=100
August, 2004	36	58	6=100
July, 2004	34	59	7=100
June, 2004	37	55	8=100
Late April, 2004	36	54	10=100
Early April, 2004	32	57	11=100
December, 2003	44	45	11=100
October, 2003	35	54	11=100
September, 2003	32	58	10=100

Q.44 Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress have a clear alternative for how to deal with the situation in Iraq, or don't you think so?

18 Have a clear alternative
 71 Don't have a clear alternative
11 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

⁵ In June 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: "Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until a stable government is established there, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?"

Q.45 Do you think the war in Iraq has helped the war on terrorism, or has it hurt the war on terrorism?

			(VOL)	Don't know/
	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>No effect</u>	<u>Refused</u>
Mid-September, 2005	43	43	6	8=100
July, 2005	39	47	7	7=100
February, 2005	44	41	7	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	45	40	6	9=100
Early September, 2004	46	40	6	8=100
August, 2004	45	44	4	7=100
July, 2004	43	45	5	7=100
June, 2004	43	44	4	9=100
Mid-March, 2004	50	37	5	8=100
Late February, 2004	62	28	3	7=100
Early February, 2004	55	32	7	6=100
December, 2003	59	26	6	9=100
September, 2003	54	31	7	8=100
May, 2003	65	22	6	7=100
April, 2003 ⁶	63	22	--	15=100
Early October, 2002	52	34	--	14=100

Q.46 Some people are comparing Iraq to the war in Vietnam thirty years ago. Do you think Iraq will turn out to be another Vietnam, or do you think the U.S. will accomplish its goals in Iraq?

		June	Early	June	Late
		<u>2005</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>April</u>
			<u>2004</u>		<u>2004</u>
39	Will be another Vietnam	35	29	29	25
48	U.S. will accomplish its goals	47	54	55	54
5	Too early to tell (VOL.)	7	4	4	6
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100	100	100

NO QUESTION 47

Q.48 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

		<u>July 2005</u>
57	Should set a timetable	49
37	Should not set a timetable	45
1	Should get out now (VOL.)	*
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100		100

⁶ In April 2003, the question was worded: "Do you think the war in Iraq will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?" In Early October 2002 the question was worded: "If the U.S. uses military force in Iraq, do you think this will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?"

Q.49 From what you've read and heard, do you believe U.S. troops in Iraq have the resources and equipment they need to fight the war in Iraq effectively, or not?

44	Yes
49	No
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.50 In your opinion, do you think democracy can succeed if the Iraqi people elect Islamic religious leaders to positions of power, or not?

		<u>Feb 2005</u>
34	Yes, can succeed	37
47	No	40
<u>19</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>23</u>
100		100

NO QUESTION 51

Q.52 When it comes to the issue of women's rights in Iraq, should the U.S. ... **[READ]**?

20	Insist that a new Iraqi government provide equal rights for women
49	Encourage equal rights for women, but leave it up to the Iraqi's to decide
	OR
29	Not get involved in the issue
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

NO QUESTIONS 53-54

ASK ALL:

Q.55 In general, do you think news reports are making the situation in Iraq seem WORSE than it really is or BETTER than it really is, or are reports showing the situation about the way it really is?

		<u>Oct 2003</u>
35	Worse	38
19	Better	14
38	About the way it really is	36
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>
100		100

NO QUESTIONS 56-59

On a different subject...

Q.60 How confident are you that George W. Bush is taking the right approach to solving the nation's energy problems... Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

		<u>May 2001</u>
8	Very confident	14
28	Somewhat confident	38
26	Not too confident	23
34	Not at all confident	20
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=758]:

Q.61F1 Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for U.S. energy policy... **[READ AND ROTATE]**?

		<u>Feb</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>May</u> <u>2001</u>
43	Expanding exploration, mining and drilling, and the construction of new power plants [OR]	37	44
48	More energy conservation and regulation on energy use and prices	54	49
<u>9</u>	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=765]:

Q.62F2 Which should be a higher priority for the president and Congress now: **(READ AND ROTATE)**?

		<u>May</u> <u>2001</u>
36	Controlling rising gasoline prices and dealing with current energy shortages [OR]	31
52	Trying to find new energy supplies that will deal with our long term problems?	56
9	(DO NOT READ) Both are equally important	10
<u>3</u>	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

ASK ALL:

Q.63 Would you favor or oppose allowing oil and gas drilling in the Alaskan Arctic National Wildlife Refuge?

		<u>Late</u> <u>March 2005</u>	<u>Mid-</u> <u>March 2005</u>
50	Favor	46	42
42	Oppose	49	46
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=765]:

Q.64F2 As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each. First, would you favor or oppose the government **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**? How about the government... **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't know/</u> <u>Refused</u>
a.	Giving tax cuts to energy companies to do more exploration for oil	52	44	4=100
b.	Giving tax cuts to energy companies to develop wind, solar and hydrogen technology	73	22	5=100
c.	Promoting the increased use of nuclear power	39	53	8=100
d.	Establishing price controls on fuel and energy	69	26	5=100
e.	Requiring better fuel efficiency for cars, trucks and SUVs	86	12	2=100
f.	Spending more on subway, rail and bus systems	68	27	5=100

ASK ALL:

Q.65 Now I'm going to list a few steps some people may be taking lately to deal with increasing energy costs. Not everyone will have done these. Have you [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] lately, or not?

		Yes, Have <u>Done This</u>	No, Haven't <u>Done This</u>	(VOL) Does not <u>Apply</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Been driving less to save money on gas May, 2001	70 52	25 43	5 5	*=100 *=100
b.	Been shopping around for gasoline at the best price May, 2001	69 65	28 32	3 3	*=100 *=100
c.	Changed your plans for travel to avoid driving long distances	57	37	6	*=100
d.	Started car-pooling to work or taking public transportation May, 2001	20 16	67 68	13 16	*=100 0=100
e.	Bought a car that gets better gas mileage	27	69	4	*=100
f.	Been adjusting the temperature in your house to lower your utility bills May, 2001	64 69	33 27	3 4	0=100 *=100

Q.66 If the U.S. is to become less dependent on oil as an energy source, how important do you think it is that Americans now driving SUVs switch to more fuel efficient vehicles? Is it... [READ]

		<i>Newsweek</i> <u>Nov 2001</u>
48	Very important	42
31	Somewhat important	37
10	Not too important, OR	11
8	Not at all important	8
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=758]:

Q.67F1 Do you think the high price of gasoline right now is a result of real shortages in the supply of oil, or are companies taking advantage of the situation for their own profits?

15	Real shortages
73	Taking advantage
9	Both/Neither (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=765]:

Q.68F2 Who do you think is most to blame for rising gasoline prices? [OPEN END, ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES. DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES]

- 36 Oil companies / Big oil / Domestic oil producers
- 27 The president / Bush / The administration
- 18 OPEC / Middle East countries / Saudi Arabia / Foreign oil producers
- 9 Katrina / The hurricane
- 8 Consumers / The public / SUVs / Gas guzzlers / Inefficient autos and trucks
- 4 Congress
- 14 Other
- 10 Don't know/Refused

ASK ALL:

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

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

PARTY CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No Preference/ Other/DK</u>
1991	31	32	33	4=100
1990	31	33	30	6=100
			<u>Independent/ No Pref/Oth/DK</u>	
1989	33	33	34=100	
1987	26	35	39=100	

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

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

ASK ALL:

IDEO In general, would you describe your political views as... [READ]

	<u>Very conservative</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>Very liberal</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
September 8-11, 2005	7	32	37	15	6	3=100
September 6-7, 2005	5	28	42	15	4	7=100
July, 2005	7	26	39	17	5	6=100
June, 2005	7	27	40	15	7	4=100
May, 2005	5	31	41	13	5	5=100
March, 2005	7	33	37	13	4	6=100
February, 2005	5	31	38	15	4	6=100
January, 2005	5	28	42	16	4	5=100
Yearly Totals						
2004	6	31	38	14	5	6=100
2003	6	32	39	13	5	5=100
2002	6	31	39	13	5	6=100
2001	6	30	38	14	5	7=100
2000	6	30	38	13	4	8=100

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

Q.69 How good a job is the Republican Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON REPUBLICANS/REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=647]:

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

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

Q.70 How good a job is the Democratic Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON DEMOCRATS/DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=743]:

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

Now, just a few questions for statistical purposes only.

COMPUTER Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

INTERNET Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

Based on Total Respondents:

	Computer User			Goes Online		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 2005	77	22	1=100	73	27	1=100
June, 2005	77	23	*=100	69	31	*=100
Late May, 2005	76	24	*=100	70	29	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	78	22	*=100	72	28	0=100
December, 2004	80	20	*=100	72	28	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	79	21	*=100	72	28	*=100
Early September, 2004	78	22	*=100	72	28	*=100
August, 2004	75	25	*=100	68	32	0=100
April, 2004	73	27	0=100	66	34	*=100

COMPUTER CONTINUED...

Based on Total Respondents:

	<i>Computer User</i>			<i>Goes Online</i>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2004 ⁷	75	25	*=100	68	32	*=100
August, 2003	77	23	*=100	67	33	*=100
Mid-July, 2003	75	25	*=100	65	35	*=100
June, 2003	75	25	0=100	67	33	0=100
January, 2003	76	24	0=100	67	33	*=100
December, 2002	76	24	*=100	67	33	*=100
Early October, 2002	75	25	*=100	63	37	*=100
August, 2002	78	22	*=100	69	31	*=100
June, 2002	74	26	*=100	66	34	*=100
May, 2002	75	25	*=100	66	34	*=100
April, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
January, 2002	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-November, 2001	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-September, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	*=100
June, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
May, 2001	75	25	*=100	64	36	0=100
April, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2001	72	28	0=100	60	40	*=100
January, 2001	71	29	*=100	61	39	0=100
July, 2000	68	31	1=100	55	45	*=100
June, 2000	68	31	1=100	56	44	*=100
April, 2000	68	32	*=100	54	46	*=100
March, 2000 ⁸	72	28	0=100	61	39	0=100
February, 2000	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
January, 2000	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100
December, 1999	67	33	*=100	53	47	0=100
October, 1999	67	33	*=100	50	50	0=100
Late September, 1999	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100
September, 1999	70	30	*=100	53	47	0=100
August, 1999	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
July, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	0=100
June, 1999	64	35	1=100	50	50	*=100
May, 1999	66	33	1=100	48	52	0=100
April, 1999	71	29	*=100	51	49	*=100
March, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
February, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
January, 1999	69	31	*=100	47	53	*=100
Early December, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	0=100
November, 1998	--	--	--	37	63	*=100
Early September, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	*=100
Late August, 1998	66	34	0=100	43	57	*=100
Early August, 1998	66	34	*=100	41	59	*=100

⁷ Beginning in 2004, the online use question is asked of all respondents (in previous years it was asked only of those who identified themselves as computer users). This modification was made to adjust to changes in technology and means of access to the Internet, and increases the percent who are classified as Internet users by 1-2 percentage points.

⁸ In March 2000, "or anywhere else" was added to the question wording.

COMPUTER CONTINUED...

	<i>Computer User</i>			Based on Total Respondents: <i>Goes Online</i>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
April, 1998	61	39	*=100	36	64	0=100
January, 1998	65	35	*=100	37	63	0=100
November, 1997	66	34	*=100	36	63	1=100
June, 1997	60	40	0=100	29	71	0=100
Early September, 1996	56	44	*=100	22	78	0=100
July, 1996	56	44	*=100	23	77	0=100
April, 1996	58	42	*=100	21	79	*=100
March, 1996	61	39	*=100	22	78	0=100
February, 1996	60	40	0=100	21	79	*=100
January, 1996	59	41	0=100	21	79	0=100
June, 1995 ⁹	--	--	--	14	86	*=100

⁹ The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions: (1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?) (2) Do you, yourself, ever use a computer at (work) (school) (work or school) to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?