

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
OCTOBER 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
October 17-23, 2007
N=2007

QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1008]:

Q.3F1 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>
October, 2007	31	54	15=100
July, 2007	33	54	13=100
June, 2007	34	49	17=100
April, 2007	36	43	21=100
March, 2007 ¹	37	42	21=100
February, 2007	41	36	23=100
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27=100
Early October, 2006	35	53	12=100
June, 2006	32	50	18=100
March, 2006	34	46	20=100
January, 2006	34	48	18=100
Early November, 2005	36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
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

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=999]:

And thinking about Congress...

Q.4F2 Compared to recent Congresses, would you say THIS Congress has accomplished more, accomplished less, or accomplished about the same amount?

	<u>More</u>	<u>Less</u>	<u>Same amount</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
October, 2007	5	43	42	10=100
October, 2006	6	39	47	8=100
Early September, 2006	7	37	49	7=100
June, 2006	7	43	42	8=100
April, 2006	8	38	48	6=100

1 In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

QUESTION 4F2 CONTINUED...

	<u>More</u>	<u>Less</u>	<u>Same Amount</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Early November, 2002 (RVs)	11	27	54	8=100
June, 2002	16	22	56	6=100
July, 2000	21	15	55	9=100
August, 1999	15	20	60	5=100
Early October, 1998(RVs)	24	23	49	4=100
Early September, 1998	25	15	55	5=100
Early August, 1998	18	15	60	7=100
November, 1997	23	12	59	6=100
April, 1997	10	22	59	9=100
Gallup, October, 1994	10	36	51	3=100

ASK IF "LESS" (2 IN Q.4F2) [N=447]:

Q.5F2 Who do you think is most to blame for this [READ AND ROTATE]?

	Republican <u>leaders</u>	Democratic <u>leaders</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither/ Someone else</u>	(VOL.) <u>Don't know</u>
October, 2007	30	26	34	5	5=100
October, 2006	59	10	21	4	6=100
June, 2006	56	16	22	2	4=100
April, 2006	58	13	21	4	4=100

NO QUESTION 6, 11, 14-19, 22, 25-29.

QUESTIONS 5, 7-10, 12-13, 20-21, 23-24, 30-38 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED.

ASK ALL IN LANDLINE SAMPLE ONLY [N=1507]:

Thinking more generally about the political parties...

Q.39 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders. (First,) which party do you think (INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE)

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/ Ref</u>
a. Can better manage the federal government	32	44	5	9	10=100
March, 2007	31	47	3	8	11=100
Early October, 2006	34	44	3	9	10=100
April, 2006 ²	35	39	3	15	8=100
January, 2006	34	40	4	12	10=100
Early October, 2005	35	41	3	13	8=100
July, 2004	37	40	4	9	10=100
Early September, 1998	37	32	8	12	11=100
August, 1997	39	33	4	16	8=100
July, 1996	45	32	4	12	7=100
April, 1995	49	30	3	13	5=100
July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5=100

2 In April 2006 and earlier, the question was worded: "Which party do you think is better described by the phrase.... Able to manage the federal government well."

QUESTION 39 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Ref</u>
May, 1993	36	32	2	17	13=100
July, 1992	30	36	1	23	10=100
May, 1990	28	20	12	31	9=100
May, 1988	33	30	10	17	10=100
January, 1988	30	28	12	20	10=100
May, 1987	24	25	13	28	10=100
b. Governs in a more honest and ethical	26	40	6	19	9=100
March, 2007	25	43	4	18	10=100
Early October, 2006	27	41	4	18	10=100
April, 2006 ³	28	36	4	23	9=100
January, 2006	30	37	4	19	10=100
Early October, 2005	30	40	6	18	6=100
July, 2004	34	37	5	15	9=100
Early September, 1998	31	28	6	23	12=100
March, 1998	28	32	7	24	9=100
August, 1997	28	33	5	26	8=100
July, 1996	38	37	2	18	5=100
April, 1995	35	36	4	19	6=100
July, 1994	32	35	6	21	6=100
c. Can bring about the kind of changes the country needs	26	48	5	11	10=100
March, 2007	26	52	4	9	9=100
Early October, 2006	28	48	4	10	10=100
April, 2006	32	47	2	12	7=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	4	9	7=100
July, 2004	35	46	3	7	9=100
Early September, 1998	34	40	7	8	11=100
March, 1998	32	45	7	8	8=100
August, 1997	38	40	4	11	7=100
July, 1996	39	46	2	7	6=100
April, 1995	51	34	4	7	4=100
July, 1994	39	42	4	10	5=100
May, 1993	30	49	2	10	9=100
July, 1992	24	47	2	16	11=100
May, 1990	27	31	13	18	11=100
May, 1988	27	43	9	11	10=100
January, 1988	28	37	14	11	10=100
May, 1987	26	36	14	14	10=100
d. Is more concerned with the needs of people like me	25	54	4	8	9=100
March, 2007	26	55	2	7	10=100
Early October, 2006	27	55	3	8	7=100

3 In April 2006 and earlier, the question was worded: "Which party do you think is better described by the phrase... Governs in an honest and ethical way."

Q.39 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Ref</u>
April, 2006 ⁴	28	52	3	10	7=100
Early October, 2005	30	52	5	7	6=100
July, 2004	30	50	5	8	7=100
Early September, 1998	31	46	5	9	9=100
March, 1998	30	51	4	8	7=100
August, 1997	31	49	3	10	7=100
July, 1996	35	50	2	7	6=100
April, 1995	39	49	2	7	3=100
July, 1994	35	49	4	8	4=100
May, 1990	21	42	12	18	7=100
May, 1988	23	51	8	11	7=100
January, 1988	22	47	11	13	7=100
e. Selects better candidates for office ⁵	32	41	6	10	11=100
March, 1998	32	33	12	12	11=100
July, 1994	40	36	6	13	5=100
May, 1990	32	22	21	17	8=100
May, 1988	28	30	13	19	10=100
January, 1988	31	24	18	18	9=100
May, 1987	27	26	25	13	9=100

**QUESTIONS 40-41, 44-52 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
NO QUESTIONS 42-43**

ASK ALL IN LANDLINE SAMPLE ONLY [N=1507]:

Thinking about Congress..

Q.53 Are you happy or unhappy that the Democratic Party won control of Congress in last year's election?⁶

		July <u>2007</u>	March <u>2007</u>	Mid- Nov <u>2006</u>	-----Republican Party-----				
				Dec <u>2002</u> ⁷	Nov <u>1998</u>	April <u>1995</u>	March <u>1995</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>	
54	Happy	50	54	60	48	47	52	55	57
29	Unhappy	35	32	24	34	32	36	31	31
<u>17</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

4 In April 2006 and earlier, the question was worded: "Is concerned with the needs of people like me."

5 In March 1998 and earlier, the question was worded "selects good candidates for office."

6 The phrase "in last November's election" was added to the question in July 2007. It was changed to "in last year's election in October 2007.

7 In December 2002, the question was worded: "In general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Senate?" In November 1998, the question was worded: "Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Congress? In April 1995 and before, the question was worded: "Generally, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Congress."

Q.54 Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress are going too far or not far enough in challenging George W. Bush's policies in Iraq, or are they handling this about right?

		Sept	July	June	March
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>
21	Too far	22	29	22	23
47	Not far enough	42	38	41	40
23	About right	25	24	25	30
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100

QUESTIONS 55-63 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED