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For The People & The Press

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FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006, 2:00 PM

Anti-Incumbent Sentiment Echoes 1994
PUBLIC DISILLUSIONMENT WITH CONGRESS AT RECORD LEVELS

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Anti-Incumbent Sentiment Echoes 1994

PUBLIC DISILLUSIONMENT WITH CONGRESS AT RECORD LEVELS

The American public is angry with Congress, and this is bad news for the Republican Party. The belief that this Congress has accomplished less than its predecessors is markedly higher than at any point in the past nine years, and by a wide margin Republican leaders are blamed for this. Many more voters than in the recent past say the issue of partisan control of Congress will be a factor in their vote in November. And as has been the case since fall, voters are significantly more inclined to vote for Democrats than Republicans – by a 51% to 41% margin.

The public's strong appetite for change in Washington is seen both in the majority of voters who say they would like to see *most* members of Congress defeated in November (53%), and in the sizable minority who wants to see *their* representative turned out in the midterms (28%). Both measures reflect anti-incumbent sentiment not seen since late in the historic 1994 campaign, just before Republicans gained control of Congress. In recent elections, far fewer voters evinced a desire for change; in October 2002, just 38% said they did not want to see most members reelected and 19% said that about their own representative.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted among 1,501 Americans from April 7-16, finds that the Democrats maintain a large advantage in voting intentions for the fall. The Democrats' current 10-point lead is little changed from February (50%-41%), but there has been only a handful of occasions since 1994 when either party has held such a sizable advantage in the congressional horse race.

Widespread Discontent With Congress

<i>Congress has accomplished...</i>	Oct 1998	July 2000	Nov 2002	June 2004	Apr 2006
More than usual	24	21	11	--	7
Less than usual	23	16	27	--	41
About the same	49	56	54	--	47
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	--	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100		100
<i>Which party controls Congress...</i>					
Will factor in my vote	47	46	48	43	56
Will not affect my vote	49	49	49	51	39
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Like to see your member reelected</i>	Oct 1990 [^]	Oct 1994	Oct 1998	Oct 2002	Apr 2006
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	62	49	58	58	57
No	22	29	20	19	28
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Like to see most members reelected</i>					
Yes	--	28	39	39	34
No	--	56	39	38	53
Don't know	--	<u>16</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>13</u>
		100	100	100	100
<i>Midterm Congress test ballot</i>	Feb 2000	Feb 2002	Sept 2005	Feb 2006	Apr 2006
	%	%	%	%	%
Vote Democratic	47	45	52	50	51
Vote Republican	44	46	40	41	41
Other/DK	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

All figures based on registered voters.

[^] Oct 1990 trend from Gallup Poll

As was the case in February, the Democrats' edge in the ballot test stems largely from its strength among independent voters. Roughly half of independents (51%) say they favor the Democratic candidate in their district, compared with just 31% who say they will vote Republican. And compared with recent elections, far more independents say the issue of which party controls Congress will be a factor in their vote this fall.

While solid majorities of Democrats and Republicans continue to cite the question of partisan control as a factor in their vote, more than four-in-ten independent voters (45%) now express this view. In the two most recent midterms, only about three-in-ten independents said the question of which party controlled Congress would figure in their voting decisions.

More Independents See Partisan Control as a Factor				
	Oct 1998	Nov 2002	Apr 2006	02-06 change
<i>Party control of Congress will be a factor in vote</i>	%	%	%	
Republicans	57	55	60	+5
Democrats	57	60	64	+4
Independents	29	30	45	+15
 <i>Congress has accomplished less than usual</i>				
Republicans	18	24	27	+3
Democrats	27	31	54	+23
Independents	21	26	45	+19

All figures based on registered voters.

President Bush's sagging poll ratings are hurting GOP fortunes. Fully twice as many voters view their ballot this fall as a vote *against* Bush rather than as a vote *for* the president (34% vs.17%). But the party's prospects also are being undermined by the fairly common view that the 109th Congress has achieved little to date. Fully 41% of voters say the current Congress has accomplished less than its recent predecessors, 47% say its accomplishments are the same, and just 7% think it has accomplished more. That is by far the most negative evaluation of Congress's record in polls since 1997. Independents, along with Democrats, are much more critical of the record compiled by Congress than in the two previous off-year elections.

In general, people who fault Congress for accomplishing little say they blame Republican leaders for this (58% vs. 13% who blame Democratic leaders). More broadly, the Republican Party's image continues to slip. Just 40% say they have a favorable opinion of the Republican Party, down slightly since February (44%); this is the GOP's lowest favorability mark in surveys dating to 1992. The Democratic Party has a somewhat more positive image (47% favorable). Although this is not significantly different from readings in the past few months, it is also the lowest recorded by Pew since 1992. However, the Democrats hold a decided advantage over the Republicans as the party better able to reform the government.

In addition, the gap in how Republicans and Democrats rate their parties for standing up for

traditional positions has narrowed. About a year ago, 51% of Republicans and independents who lean Republican had a positive view of the party's effectiveness in advocating traditional GOP positions – reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, and promoting conservative social positions; just 33% of Democrats (and Democratic leaners) said their party was doing an excellent or good job in standing up for traditional Democratic stances, such as helping the poor and protecting minorities. But today, 47% of Republicans see their party as effective in standing up for its traditional issues compared with 40% of Democrats.

President Bush's image has eroded along with the Republican Party's. Just 40% express a favorable opinion of the president, compared with 57% who have a negative impression. This is the lowest favorable rating in Bush's presidency and below former President Clinton's low point of 48% in May 2000. Since last March 2005, positive opinions of Bush have declined by 13 percentage points (from 53% to 40%).

Bush's job approval stands at 35%, close to his 33% rating of last month. On the issue that has dominated Congress in recent weeks – immigration – Bush's rating is even lower (25%). And Congress fares no better than the president in views of its handling of the issue; just 21% approve, while roughly three times that number (64%) disapproves. Democrats now hold a significant advantage as the party better able to deal with immigration (by 43%-27%). Just two months ago, prior to the inconclusive Senate debate on the matter, the two parties were seen about evenly on this issue (38% Democrat/34% Republican).

Finally, a bright spot for Republicans is the public's decided belief that the GOP has stronger – if not necessarily better – leaders than the Democratic Party. By roughly two-to-one (53%-26%), more Americans say the Republican Party has *stronger* political leaders. In contrast, about as many people believe the Democratic Party has *better* political leaders as say that about the Republican Party (40% vs. 38%).

	<u>Fav</u>	<u>Unfav</u>	<u>Can't</u>
	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>rate</u>
George W. Bush			
April 2006 (Low)	40	57	3=100
Oct 2005	46	51	3=100
Mar 2005	53	45	2=100
Feb 2004	53	44	3=100
April 2003	72	25	3=100
April 2002*	79	19	2=100
Nov 2001* (High)	87	11	2=100
April 2001*	65	32	3=100
Bill Clinton			
Jan 1997 (High)	66	32	2=100
May 2000 (Low)	48	47	5=100

* Source: Gallup Organization.

Views of the Parties

Overall favorable ratings of the Republican Party have dropped slightly since February, and now stand 12 percentage points below where they were in the aftermath of President Bush's reelection. While most Republicans say their view of the party is favorable, moderate and liberal Republicans (at 75% favorable) are significantly less positive than are conservative Republicans (90% favorable). And just a third of independents currently have a favorable view of the party.

The Democratic Party has only a slightly better overall image than the GOP (47%). Democrats themselves give the party good marks, with 86% saying their view of the party is very or mostly favorable. Unlike the Republican Party, there is no internal division ideologically in Democrats' views of their party. Independents are divided about the Democrats, with 41% having a favorable impression and 43% an unfavorable one.

The Democratic image advantage widens when it comes to public views of specific traits associated with the two parties. By 52% to 28%, Americans say the Democratic Party, compared to the Republican Party, is better described by the phrase "concerned with the needs of people like me." The Democrats are also seen as better able to bring about needed changes to the country (by 47% to 32%) and to reform government in Washington (44%-28%). Opinions on

	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Unfav</u> %	<u>Can't</u> <u>rate</u> %
Republican Party	40	50	10=100
February 2006	44	50	6=100
Late October 2005	42	49	9=100
July 2005	48	43	9=100
December 2004	52	42	6=100
Early February 2004	52	42	6=100
December 2002	59	33	8=100
January 2001	56	35	9=100
March 1998	50	43	7=100
July 1994	63	33	4=100
July 1992	46	48	6=100
Democratic Party	47	42	11=100
February 2006	48	44	8=100
Late October 2005	49	41	10=100
July 2005	50	41	9=100
December 2004	53	41	6=100
Early February 2004	58	37	5=100
December 2002	54	37	9=100
January 2001	60	30	10=100
March 1998	58	36	6=100
July 1994	62	34	4=100
July 1992	61	33	6=100

	<u>Rep</u> <u>Party</u> %	<u>Dem</u> <u>Party</u> %	<u>Both</u> <u>(vol.)</u> %	<u>Neither</u> <u>(vol.)</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>Dem.</u> <u>adv.</u>
<i>Which party better described by phrase...</i>						
Concerned with people like me	28	52	3	10	7=100	+24
More influenced by special interests	45	28	14	2	11=100	+17
Can bring needed changes to country	32	47	2	12	7=100	+15
Governs in an honest and ethical way	28	36	4	23	9=100	+8
Able to manage federal government well	35	39	3	15	8=100	+4
<i>Which party could do a better job of...</i>						
Reforming government in Washington	28	44	5	15	8=100	+16
Dealing with immigration	27	43	6	11	13=100	+16

these measures have remained fairly stable since October.

Compared with the Democratic Party, the Republican Party is seen as more influenced by lobbyists and special interests (45% say this better describes the Republicans, 28% the Democrats). The Democratic Party also has an edge as the party viewed as governing “in an honest and ethical way” (by 36% to 28%), though nearly a quarter of those polled (23%) say this phrase applies to neither party.

The Parties in a Word

Top-of-the-mind expressions of opinion about both parties tend to be more negative than positive. When asked what single word describes their impression of each party, pluralities for each party responded a negative or critical term. But the most common words mentioned tend to be descriptive rather than evaluative. By far, the single most common word for the Republican Party was “conservative” and for the Democratic Party, “liberal.” Following these ideological labels was “fair,” a term that some respondents meant as “even-handed” and others evidently meant to be tepid praise, if that. Similar numbers described each party as “good” or “very good.”

Thematically, negative terms about the Republican Party largely address its perceived support for business and the wealthy, while those for the Democratic Party tend to highlight the perceived weakness and disorganization of the party. The GOP is associated with being “greedy,” “rich,” “business,” “crooks,” “corrupt,” “money,” and “for rich people.” The Democrats are seen as “weak,” “disorganized,” and “confused,” with a few mentions of “slow” and “struggling” tossed in. Several people also described the party as “too liberal,” and a few others mentioned “socialist” and “communists.”

One-Word Descriptions of the Parties*	
<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>Democratic Party</u>
53 Conservative	57 Liberal
22 Fair	31 Fair
19 Good	20 Good
17 Greedy	18 Weak
15 Rich	13 Too liberal
14 Business/big bus.	11 Okay
10 Crooks	11 Dis/unorganized
9 Corrupt	7 Confused
9 Money	7 Favorable
7 Confused	6 Crooks
7 For rich people	6 Hopeful
6 Dishonest	6 Poor
6 Great	5 People
6 Liars	5 Socialist
6 Okay	5 Stupid
6 Suck	
5 Poor	
5 Disappointed	
5 Lousy	
5 Out of touch	

* The number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are NOT percentages.

Partisans Rate Parties' Performance

For most of Bush's presidency, Republicans have expressed a fairly positive view of the party's performance in standing up for traditional positions such as cutting taxes and reducing the size of government. By contrast, Democratic partisans have given their party lower marks for effectiveness in advocating traditional Democratic positions like protecting the interests of minorities and helping the poor and needy.

But Republicans have become more critical of their party's performance in this regard, while over the past year Democrats have become a bit less critical of their party. About a year ago (March 2005), 51% of Republicans said their party was doing an excellent or good job in advocating traditional positions, compared with just 33% among Democrats who gave a positive evaluation of their party. Today, 47% of Republicans say their party is doing an excellent or good job in standing up for traditional positions, compared with 40% of Democrats.

There are now also bigger ideological divisions in these evaluations within the Republican Party than in the Democratic Party. Conservative Republicans are 20 points more likely than moderate and liberal Republicans to rate the GOP as doing an excellent or good job in standing up for traditional positions (60% vs. 40%). Democrats are divided ideologically in views of their party's performance, but the differences are not as large: 52% of conservative and moderate Democrats have a positive opinion of their party's advocacy of traditional positions, compared with 38% among liberal Democrats.

In general, the public believes the Republican Party has *stronger* leaders than the Democratic Party (by

Party Performance in Standing Up for Traditional Positions

	<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>
	%	%	%	%
April 2006	47	51	40	59
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

Compared with the Democrats, the Republicans Have...

	Better leaders	Stronger leaders	<i>diff</i>
	%	%	
Total	38	53	+15
Men	42	62	+20
Women	33	43	+10
18-29	30	51	+21
30-49	42	58	+16
50-64	37	52	+15
65+	37	42	+5
College grad	43	57	+14
Some college	37	61	+24
H.S. or less	35	45	+10
Republican	79	76	-3
Independent	32	50	+18
Democrat	9	36	+27
Conservative	59	64	+5
Moderate	28	50	+22
Liberal	22	43	+21

Half of the survey respondents were asked which party has the better political leaders, the other half about which party has the stronger political leaders.

53%-26%) and divides evenly when asked which party has *better* leaders (40% say the Democrats, 38% say the Republicans). Republicans overwhelmingly say the GOP has better (79%) and stronger (76%) leaders. But independents and Democrats make sharper distinctions as to which party has the better and stronger leaders. Only about a third of independents (32%) say the Republican Party has better leaders, but half say the GOP has stronger leaders. The gap among Democrats is even larger; just 9% of Democrats say the Republican Party has better leaders, but more than a third (36%) believes the Republican Party has stronger leaders.

Anti-Incumbent Mood

With a growing number of Americans dissatisfied with what Congress has accomplished in this term, and most of them blaming the Republican leaders in Congress, the Republican Party is facing an electorate looking for change this fall. For the first time since 1994, a majority of voters (53%) say that they would *not* like to see most members of Congress reelected. This is 15 percentage points higher than in October of 2002, just prior to the midterm elections that year that brought significant Republican gains. The increase is even greater among independents and liberal Democrats (up 24 percentage points in each group). Even among moderate and liberal Republicans, nearly half (46%) now think most members of Congress should not be reelected – an increase of 12 points since the fall of 2002.

Historically, voters have been happier with their own member of Congress than with Congress as a whole. But compared with the fall of 2002, there has been a nine-point increase in the percentage of voters who say they do not want their own U.S. representative reelected. Currently, 28% say this compared with 19% in October 2002. The largest increases in anti-incumbent sentiment are seen among moderate and liberal Republicans (up 15 points, to 25% today), and among independents (up 13 points, to 36%).

More Independents, Democrats Looking for Change				
<i>% do <u>not</u> want most in Congress re-elected</i>	Oct 2002	Apr 2006	<i>diff</i>	
	%	%		
Total	38	53	+15	
Conservative Rep	34	30	-4	
Mod./Lib. Rep	34	46	+12	
Independent	41	65	+24	
Conserv./Mod. Dem	38	56	+18	
Liberal Dem	47	71	+24	
<i>% do <u>not</u> want their US representative re-elected</i>	Oct 2002	Apr 2006	<i>diff</i>	
	%	%		
Total	19	28	+9	
Conservative Rep	19	18	-1	
Mod./Lib. Rep	10	25	+15	
Independent	23	36	+13	
Conserv./Mod. Dem	18	28	+10	
Liberal Dem	31	33	+2	
Based on registered voters				

Reflecting both political polarization and discontent with Washington, a record number of voters – 56% – say that the issue of party control of Congress will be a factor in their vote. This is eight points higher than on the eve of the election four years ago, when 48% said party control would be a factor in their decision making. Since 2002, both liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans have become even more likely to say that party control of Congress matters. But especially noteworthy is the fact that more than four-in-ten independents (45%) say this as well, up 15 points from 30% on the eve of the 2002 midterm, and 29% in 1998. For independents to be paying so much attention to party – especially this early in the campaign – is unusual, and it is benefitting the Democrats. Independents who say party is a factor favor the Democratic candidate in their district by greater than two-to-one (62% to 27%).

At the same time, criticism of Congress’s performance among independents is also strongly associated with voting preferences. Independents who criticize Congress for doing less than usual say they plan to vote Democratic by an overwhelming 68% to 18% margin.

Is a Third Party Needed?

A narrow majority of the poll’s respondents (53%) agree that the U.S. should have a third major political party in addition to the Democratic and Republican parties, but there is no upward trend in this measure over the past decade or so. Moreover, most people think the parties present a real choice to voters. When asked whether there are differences in what the Democratic and Republican parties stand for, most Americans say there are: 33% believe there is a great deal of difference, and 42% say there is a fair amount of difference. Just 21% say there is hardly any difference at all between the two major parties.

Skeptical Independents Favor Democrats in ‘06			
	<i>2006 Vote Preference</i>		
	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Oth/DK</u> %
All independents	51	31	18=100
<i>Inds who say party control of Congress...</i>			
Will factor in vote	62	27	11=100
Will not affect vote	44	35	21=100
<i>Inds who say Congress has accomplished...</i>			
Less than usual	68	18	14=100
More/same as usual	34	47	19=100
All figures based on independent registered voters.			

Looking to November

With a 10-point advantage overall in intended congressional vote, the Democratic Party is holding its own among many groups it lost in 2002 and 2004, and is even leading among many of them. For example, the Democratic candidate is favored over the Republican by 17 percentage points (56%-39%) among white, non-Hispanic Catholics, by 50%-42% among white mainline Protestants, and by 52%-40% among voters in the Midwest. The Democratic candidate is tied with the Republicans among other groups that the Democrats have lost in recent elections, including whites, men and Southerners.

In nearly every group except for white evangelical Protestants and Republicans themselves, more of those interviewed today support the Democratic candidate than was the case at about this time four years ago (February 2002), or on Election Day in 2002 or 2004. The Democrats now lead by a wide margin in the West (by 23 points) and the Northeast (19 points); in February 2002, the Republicans held a slight advantage in both regions. Especially worrisome for the Republicans is the current 20-point Democratic lead among independents. Four years ago, the Democratic and Republican candidates were essentially tied among independents (42% Republican, 39% Democrat).

Cynical About Ethics Reform

Most Americans (75%) say they are at least somewhat concerned about the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington. However, fewer than half say they are very concerned about this issue (46%). The public is divided over whether bribery and corruption in Congress is more common today (47%), or no different than it has been in the past (49%).

There is overwhelming support for legislation placing stricter limits on the value of gifts that House members and senators may accept from lobbyists. Roughly three-quarters of Americans (76%) favor tougher limits on the gifts that lawmakers may accept from lobbyists. About a decade ago, there was comparably broad support for tighter limits on lobbyists' gifts to lawmakers. While the Senate passed a limited gift ban last month, the House has yet to take action on such legislation.

The Generic House Vote (Based on Registered Voters)					
	<i>Voting Intentions</i>				
	<i>Feb 2002</i>		<i>Apr 2006</i>		<i>Dem Gain</i>
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	
	%	%	%	%	
Total	46	45	41	51	+6
Men	51	41	47	46	+5
Women	43	48	35	56	+8
Republican	93	7	92	6	-1
Democrat	4	92	3	96	+4
Independent	42	39	31	51	+12
Northeast	48	42	36	55	+13
Midwest	42	50	40	52	+2
South	48	43	47	45	+2
West	48	43	35	58	+15
White Protestant	58	33	53	39	+6
Evangelical	61	31	64	29	-2
Mainline	55	36	42	50	+14
White Catholic	54	40	39	56	+16

At the same time, there is considerable skepticism that such limits would actually reduce the influence of special interests in Washington. A narrow majority (52%) believes a law to place stricter limits on lobbyists' gifts would not make much difference; slightly fewer (45%) believe such a law would be effective in reducing the influence of special interests.

Independents, in particular, are dubious that a gift ban would really curb the influence of special interests. Only about four-in-ten (39%) say it would, compared with 58% who say it would not make much difference. Democrats are fairly evenly divided while a thin majority of Republicans (53%) believe such a law would reduce the influence of special interests.

	Would		
	<u>Would</u> %	<u>not</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	45	52	3=100
18-49	41	56	3=100
50+	50	47	3=100
College grad	50	48	2=100
Some college	43	55	2=100
HS or less	43	53	4=100
Republican	53	45	2=100
Democrat	47	51	2=100
Independent	39	58	3=100

Democratic Advantage on Reform

The Democratic Party continues to hold a modest edge as the party better described as governing “in an honest and ethical way;” 36% say this phrase better characterizes the Democratic Party while 28% say it better describes the Republican Party. A relatively large minority (23%) believes neither party governs in an honest and ethical fashion.

The Democrats have a bigger advantage as the party better able to reform the government in Washington. More than four-in-ten Americans (44%) believe the Democratic Party can do better in reforming the government, compared with 28% who choose the Republican Party.

Opinions on both of these measures have remained fairly stable in recent months. In the summer of 1994, the pivotal year when Republicans won control of Congress, neither party had a significant advantage in public views of honesty and reforming the government.

<i>Governs in an honest & ethical way</i>	July <u>1994</u> %	Jan <u>2006</u> %	April <u>2006</u> %
Rep Party	32	30	28
Dem Party	35	37	36
Both (Vol.)	6	4	4
Neither (Vol.)	21	19	23
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Could do better in reforming government</i>	July <u>1994</u> %	Feb <u>2006</u> %	April <u>2006</u> %
Rep Party	39	29	28
Dem Party	40	42	44
Both (Vol.)	3	7	5
Neither (Vol.)	11	12	15
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

In the current survey, there are significant differences among Republicans regarding the

party's image for honest and ethical governance. Roughly two-thirds of conservative Republicans (69%) say that description better applies to the Republican Party, but fewer moderate and liberal Republicans agree (55%). The differences are much smaller on the Democratic side. Independents are more likely to view the Democratic Party than the Republican Party as governing honestly and ethically (by 33% to 19%), but a third of independents (32%) say that description does not apply to either party.

In addition, fewer Republicans than Democrats believe their party could do a better job of reforming the government in Washington, DC; 69% of Republicans say the GOP could do better in this regard, compared with 82% of Democrats who point to their party as being better able to reform the government. Independents by roughly two-to-one (40%-19%) point to the Democratic Party as better able to reform government.

Bush Fatigue?

About six-in-ten Americans (62%) agree with the statement – “I am tired of all the problems associated with the Bush administration.” In comparison, somewhat more Americans expressed that sentiment during the latter part of the Clinton administration (71% in August 1999, 72% in September 2000).

As expected, there is a huge partisan gap in feelings of “Bush fatigue.” Large majorities of Democrats (82%) and independents (69%) express weariness with the administration’s problems, compared with just a third of Republicans.

Only about one-in-five Americans (21%) say they wish that Bush could run for a third presidential term, which is lower than the percentage expressing that sentiment about Clinton late in his second term. In this regard, by roughly three-to-one (70%-23%) the public says it wants the next president to offer policies and programs that are different from Bush’s, instead of offering similar policies.

Bush Fatigue Vs. Clinton Fatigue			
	--Clinton--		Bush
	Aug	Sept	April
<i>I'm tired of all the problems associated w/ administration</i>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2006</u>
	%	%	%
Completely agree	36	48	36
Mostly agree	35	24	26
Mostly disagree	19	16	23
Completely disagree	8	8	12
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100
<i>I wish the president could run for a third term</i>	%	%	%
Completely agree	12	16	8
Mostly agree	16	11	13
Mostly disagree	24	16	21
Completely disagree	47	55	56
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100

This view has changed little since October and presents a striking contrast with the latter stages of Clinton's presidency, when there was considerable support for the next president to adopt similar policies and programs.

Even among Republicans there is a fair amount of support for the next president to pursue policies that are different from the Bush administration's. Nearly half of moderate and liberal Republicans (48%) and about a third of conservative Republicans (31%) say they want the next president to offer different policies. Overwhelming numbers of independents (81%) and conservative and moderate Democrats (91%), as well as virtually all liberal Democrats (98%), want the next president to set a new policy course.

Rice Still Popular, Cheney Slips

The public takes a mixed view of leading Bush administration officials. About seven-in-ten (69%) express a favorable opinion of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, based on those familiar enough with Rice to give a rating. In contrast, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's positive rating stands below 50% (at 45%); Rumsfeld's favorability has remained fairly stable over the past year, but is well below his peak of 76%, in April 2003 during the first month of the Iraq war.

Vice President Dick Cheney's favorable ratings have been steadily declining over the past year. Six months ago, Americans were divided in their view of the vice president (48% favorable, 52% unfavorable). Today, six-in-ten Americans have an unfavorable view of Cheney, and nearly a third (32%) have a "very unfavorable" opinion of him. Just six months ago, a

Looking Ahead: Broad Support for a Policy Shift

	--Clinton--		--Bush--	
	Feb 1999	June 2000	Oct 2005	April 2006
<i>Want next president to offer policies...</i>	%	%	%	%
Similar to Clinton/Bush	54	40	25	23
Diff. from Clinton/Bush	41	52	69	70
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100

Favorability Ratings (Based on those who can rate)

	Favorable %	Unfavorable %	Can't rate %
<i>Bush Administration</i>			
Condoleezza Rice	69	31=100	14
October, 2005	70	30=100	15
March, 2005	68	32=100	15
Donald Rumsfeld	45	55=100	16
October, 2005	46	54=100	23
March, 2005	48	52=100	20
April, 2003	76	24=100	20
Dick Cheney	40	60=100	9
October, 2005	48	52=100	11
March, 2005	53	47=100	9
April, 2003	69	31=100	13
December, 2002	69	31=100	15
<i>Other Republicans</i>			
Rudy Giuliani	84	16=100	16
John McCain	68	32=100	20
George Allen	57	43=100	66
Bill Frist	46	54=100	47
Tom DeLay	31	69=100	28
<i>Democrats</i>			
John Edwards	64	36=100	26
Bill Clinton	63	37=100	3
Joe Biden	58	42=100	52
Mark Warner	57	43=100	63
Hillary Clinton	56	44=100	4
John Kerry	50	50=100	11
Russell Feingold	50	50=100	62
Howard Dean	45	55=100	31

quarter of the public who could rate him felt this way.

Rep. Tom DeLay, who recently announced his retirement from Congress, is far more visible today than six months ago, and has won both supporters and detractors since then. Nearly a quarter of the general public (23%) has a favorable view of him, up from 18% in October 2005. But DeLay's unfavorable rating also has risen, from 40% to 49% during this period. Among those who can rate him, however, his 69% unfavorable rating remains unchanged from a half year ago.

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani's favorable rating ranks highest among Republicans tested (84%), and has inched upward from six months ago (79%). Arizona Sen. John McCain's standing is down from 74% favorable in October to 68% today, while his unfavorable rating has risen from 26% to 32%. Other Republicans, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and Virginia Sen. George Allen, are not familiar to many Americans and receive mixed ratings from those who know them.

Rating Potential Candidates

Giuliani, Rice and McCain are broadly popular among Republican voters, but also are viewed favorably by majorities of independent and Democratic voters. More than nine-in-ten Republican voters (94%) have a positive opinion of Giuliani, among those familiar enough to rate him; about eight-in-ten Democratic voters (80%) and independent voters (77%) also express favorable opinions of the former New York mayor.

Rice also draws overwhelmingly favorable ratings from Republican voters (93%), but also from majorities of registered independents (58%) and Democrats (55%). McCain has a lower positive rating among Republicans (70%), but gets much higher marks among independents (68%) and Democrats (66%). However, McCain's ratings among independent and Democratic voters have declined since October (by 12 and 10 points, respectively).

Voters Look to 2008			
(Percent "favorable" based on registered voters who gave ratings)			
	Repub- <u>licans</u>	Demo- <u>crats</u>	Inde- <u>pendents</u>
<i>Possible</i>			
<i>GOP Candidates</i>			
Rudy Giuliani	94	80	77
Condoleezza Rice	93	55	58
Bill Frist	71	31	32
George Allen	71	n/a	n/a
John McCain	70	66	68
<i>Possible</i>			
<i>Dem Candidates</i>			
Hillary Clinton	20	83	56
John Edwards	45	81	63
Joe Biden	44	80	56
John Kerry	20	77	48
Howard Dean	27	66	45
Russell Feingold	34	57	59
Mark Warner	n/a	57	n/a
n/a = samples sizes are too low			

Frist fares well among Republican voters (71%), but receives a positive rating from only about third of independents (32%) and Democrats (31%) familiar enough with the Senate leader to rate him. Allen gets an identical positive rating among Republicans (71%), but is not familiar to enough Democrats and independents to produce a reliable estimate of favorability.

In contrast to major Republican figures, no leading Democrat attracts favorable ratings from a majority of Republicans. More than eight-in-ten Democratic voters (83%) and 56% of independents express a positive opinion of Sen. Hillary Clinton, but just 20% of Republicans agree. A similar pattern is evident in views of Sen. John Kerry. Former Sen. John Edwards and Sen. Joe Biden have greater crossover appeal; more than six-in-ten independents (63%) and nearly half of Republicans (45%) view Edwards favorably, while Biden gets comparable ratings.

Who Leads the Democrats?

Hillary Clinton continues to be named more often than anyone else as the leader of the Democratic Party these days, though the plurality response offered by three-in-ten Americans is that “nobody” leads the party. Roughly half as many (16%) name Sen. Clinton, followed by 7% who name Sen. Ted Kennedy and 4% who name former President Bill Clinton.

By comparison, the party’s official leaders are rarely mentioned by Americans. Just 1% each cite Sen. Harry Reid or Rep. Nancy Pelosi as the party’s overall leader, and 3% name Democratic Party Chair Howard Dean as the party’s leader. Republicans, Democrats and independents give similar answers to this question.

Who is the Leader of the Democratic Party?	
	<u>Total</u>
	%
Hillary Clinton	16
Ted Kennedy	7
Bill Clinton	4
John Kerry	3
Howard Dean	3
John Edwards	2
Barack Obama	2
Harry Reid	1
Joseph Biden	1
Nancy Pelosi	1
Joe Lieberman	1
Other	5
Nobody is	30
Don't know	<u>24</u>
	100
Open ended question	

Iraq Interest, Awareness High

Now in its fourth year, the war in Iraq continues to engage the American public. News about the situation in Iraq was the month's most closely followed story; 43% paid *very* close attention to news about Iraq, which is unchanged from recent months.

Most Americans are aware of the U.S. casualty toll in Iraq; 53% correctly answered that around 2,500 U.S. soldiers have been killed in the conflict. Awareness of the casualty level varies considerably by gender and age, with men over age 50 (71%) particularly likely to know the correct figure. College graduates (60%) are also more likely to respond accurately.

<i>How many troops killed?</i>	Men		Women	
	<u>18-49</u>	<u>18-49</u>	<u>50+</u>	<u>50+</u>
	%	%	%	%
Around 500	5	7	1	2
Around 1,500	16	22	11	13
Around 2,500	52	43	71	51
Around 3,500	21	18	12	22
Other (Vol.)	2	--	1	1
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100

Roughly four-in-ten (37%) say the people they know are becoming less emotionally involved in Iraq news than they once were, but that is down somewhat from June 2005 (44%). A solid majority (59%) says the people they know are about as emotionally involved (38%) or more involved (21%) in Iraq news than they were (up from 51% last June).

Democrats, in particular, say the people they know are becoming more engaged by news about the war. Roughly a quarter of Democrats say that now (27%), compared with 17% last June. By contrast, 13% of Republicans say the people they know are more emotionally involved in Iraq news, no change from last June.

<i>People are becoming...</i>	May	Aug	Jan	June	Apr
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
Less emotionally involved	26	36	35	44	37
More emotionally involved	33	19	19	15	21
About the same	36	41	44	36	38
Mixed/Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

The public's divisions over the war continue to be reflected in perceptions of press coverage of the conflict. About four-in-ten (37%) think that news reports are making the situation in Iraq seem worse than it really is, while 17% believe the news is making the situation seem better than it is, and 35% say reports are accurately reflecting the reality in Iraq. Opinion on this issue shows little change from December 2005, when 39% said news reports were making things seem worse, 19% said they were making the situation seem better, and 35% said reports were accurate.

Most Republicans (61%) feel that news reports present an excessively negative picture of events in Iraq, while half of Democrats say the reports are generally accurate. About a third of independents (34%) say news coverage of Iraq is making things seem worse than they really are, while about the same number (32%) believes reports are mostly accurate.

Opinions on Iraq Largely Unchanged

Overall public opinion about the war remains relatively stable. Roughly half of Americans (47%) believe the war was the right decision and the same number (47%) believes that the military effort is going very well (13%) or fairly well (34%). Attitudes on both of these measures have changed little since the start of the year.

Iraq Opinions Stable				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
<i>Using force in Iraq</i>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>
	%	%	%	%
Right decision	45	51	45	47
Wrong decision	47	44	49	46
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>How well is military effort going?</i>				
Very well	12	13	9	13
Fairly well	39	38	34	34
Not too well	27	29	30	29
Not at all well	17	17	21	21
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100

A solid majority of Americans (59%) believes the U.S. is “losing ground” in its efforts to prevent a civil war in Iraq, though that is less than in March (66%), after the bombing of a major Shiite mosque in Samarra triggered sectarian violence. The percentage of Americans who believe the U.S. is losing ground in defeating the insurgents (46%) has also decreased slightly since March (51%). Other perceptions of progress in Iraq remain largely unchanged from March.

'Losing Ground' In Iraq?			
	Jan	Mar	Apr
<i>Percent who say we are "losing ground" in...</i>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>06</u>
	%	%	%
Preventing a civil war	48	66	59
Reducing civilian casualties	54	56	56
Defeating the insurgents	38	51	46
Preventing terrorist bases in Iraq	33	44	43
Establishing a democracy	26	38	38
Training Iraqi forces	22	30	30
Rebuilding roads, power plants, etc.	22	29	26

The public is evenly divided over whether to withdraw U.S. forces from Iraq; 48% say the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible, while an identical number (48%) says it should keep its troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized. This is a slight change from last month, when 50% preferred to bring the troops home as soon as possible, and 44% said to keep troops there until the situation was stable.

By a 53%-40% margin, the public continues to favor a timetable for the withdrawal of American troops from Iraq. There is a significant gender gap on this issue, as 62% of women favor a timetable, compared to only 44% of men. There are sharp partisan differences as well, with two-thirds (67%) of Democrats supporting a timetable, compared with 55% of independents and 38% of Republicans.

A plurality of Americans (37%) believe the war in Iraq has increased the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., down somewhat from July 2005 (45%), in a survey conducted shortly after the July 7 bombings in London. Roughly a quarter (27%) currently thinks the war has lessened the chances of a terrorist strike, and 33% say it has made no difference.

Iraq Another Vietnam?

Americans are divided over whether the war in Iraq will ultimately resemble the American experience in Vietnam; 41% say Iraq will turn out to be another Vietnam, while 43% say the U.S. will accomplish its goals there. The public has grown more pessimistic in this view since September of last year, when 39% said Iraq would be another Vietnam and 48% believed the U.S. would accomplish its objectives.

As is the case with nearly every issue related to Iraq, there is a sizable partisan divide in views of whether the U.S. military operation in Iraq will end up as another Vietnam. Republicans by greater than four-to-one (73%-15%) say the U.S. will accomplish its

	Jan <u>06</u>	Feb <u>06</u>	Mar <u>06</u>	Apr <u>06</u>
<i>What to do now?</i>	%	%	%	%
Bring troops home	48	46	50	48
Keep troops in Iraq	48	50	44	48
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Should set timetable for troop withdrawal?</i>				
Yes	50	--	55	53
No	42	--	39	40
Other/Don't know	<u>8</u>	--	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100		100	100

<i>Will war in Iraq be another Vietnam?</i>	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Another Vietnam	41	15	62	46
US will achieve goals	43	73	24	37
Too early to tell (VOL)	5	4	4	7
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Iraqis better off w/ Saddam Hussein removed from power?</i>				
Better off	78	94	69	74
Worse off	13	3	20	16
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100

goals in Iraq, while Democrats by 62%-24% believe that Iraq will become another Vietnam.

However, there is one issue concerning Iraq on which there is widespread agreement: overwhelmingly, Americans agree (78%) that the people of Iraq will be better off in the long run because Saddam Hussein has been removed from power. This is down slightly from 84% in February 2004, but the belief that Iraqis will be better off remains high across the board, including 94% of Republicans, 74% of independents, and 69% of Democrats.

Bush Faulted on Leak Case

About a third of Americans (32%) say they have heard a lot about news reports that President Bush may have authorized his staff to leak pre-war intelligence about Iraq to undermine war critics; another 46% say they have heard a little about the case.

Among those who have heard at least a little about the leak reports, 57% believe President Bush acted improperly, while 34% disagree. Large majorities of Democrats (82%) and independents (67%) feel Bush acted improperly; two-thirds of Republicans (67%) say he did nothing wrong.

Strong Interest in Immigration

The massive immigration protests in several U.S. cities and the congressional debate over immigration have raised the issue’s profile with the public. About four-in-ten Americans (39%) say they have been following the immigration issue very closely. Among news stories tested, only Iraq drew slightly more public interest (43% very closely).

Public opinion toward immigration policy continues to divide the public, though the partisan differences are smaller than on Iraq and other issues. A solid majority (58%) favors a proposal to allow undocumented immigrants who have been in the U.S. for several years to gain legal working status and the possibility of future citizenship.

More divisive is a proposal to make it a criminal

Immigration Policies				
<i>Following news about immigration</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%	%
Very closely	39	40	42	37
Fairly closely	34	37	33	34
Not too/at all closely	26	23	24	28
Don't know	<u>1</u>	*	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Provide path to citizenship for undocumented in US</i>				
Favor	58	53	64	62
Oppose	35	42	31	33
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Make it a crime to assist undocumented</i>				
Favor	45	57	36	43
Oppose	47	36	56	50
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Who can best handle immigration</i>				
Democrats	43	15	75	37
Republicans	27	60	7	21
Both (Vol)	6	6	4	8
Neither (Vol)	11	9	5	18
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100	100

offense to assist an undocumented immigrant to remain in the U.S.; 45% favor such a proposal, while 47% are opposed. There is more partisanship on this issue than on whether illegal immigrants should be provided a path to citizenship. A majority of Republicans (57%) favor making it a crime to assist an undocumented immigrant to stay in the U.S., while just 36% of Democrats agree.

By 43%-27%, more Americans say the Democratic Party can better handle immigration. Roughly one-in-seven Republicans (15%) believe Democrats can do a better job on this issue, compared with 7% of Democrats who favor the GOP on immigration. Independents by 37%-21% think the Democratic Party can better handle immigration.

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 1,501 adults, 18 years of age or older, from April 7-16, 2006. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on form 1 (N=764) and form 2 (N=737) the sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of six 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:

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
APRIL 2006 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
FINAL TOPLINE
April 7-16, 2006
N = 1,501

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]

	(VOL.)				(VOL.)		
	App- <u>rove</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>		App- <u>rove</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
April, 2006	35	55	10=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
2005				<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	March 13-16, 2003	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				

IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (1,2 IN Q.1)

Q.1a Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	Dec <u>2005</u>	March <u>2005</u>	Dec <u>2004</u>	Nov <u>2003</u>	Sept <u>2003</u>	June <u>2002</u>	April <u>2001</u>
35 Approve	38	49	48	50	55	70	56
23 Very strongly	26	32	34	34	35	46	34
11 Not so strongly	11	16	12	14	18	21	20
1 Don't know (VOL)	1	1	2	2	2	3	2
55 Disapprove	54	46	44	40	36	20	27
45 Very strongly	42	36	35	30	27	8	18
10 Not so strongly	11	10	8	9	9	12	9
* Don't know (VOL)	1	*	1	1	*	0	*
<u>10</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.2 Now thinking about a few groups ... Is your overall opinion of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	heard of	rate/Ref
a. The Republican Party	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10=100
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6=100
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9=100
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9=100
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8=100
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6=100
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9=100
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6=100
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9=100
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6=100
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8=100
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10=100
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7=100
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4=100
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5=100
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6=100
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6=100
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7=100
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7=100
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6=100
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6=100
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5=100
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4=100
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6=100
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4=100
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11=100
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6=100

Q.2 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	heard of	rate/Ref
b.	The Democratic Party	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11=100
	February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8=100
	Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10=100
	July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9=100
	June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9=100
	December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6=100
	June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10=100
	Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5=100
	June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8=100
	April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7=100
	December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9=100
	July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8=100
	January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9=100
	September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5=100
	August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4=100
	February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5=100
	January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7=100
	Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6=100
	Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7=100
	March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6=100
	August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6=100
	June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6=100
	January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5=100
	October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3=100
	December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6=100
	July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4=100
	May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9=100
	July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6=100
c.	The news media	48	8	40	46	15	31	*	6=100
	February, 2006	59	12	47	37	10	27	0	4=100
	Late October, 2005	52	11	41	42	13	29	0	6=100
	Mid-March, 2005	56	12	44	40	13	27	0	4=100
	December, 2004	43	8	35	51	18	33	*	6=100
	Late October, 2000 (RVs)	50	7	43	45	14	31	0	5=100
	February, 1999	49	6	43	49	15	34	0	2=100
	March, 1998	48	9	39	50	16	34	*	2=100
	October, 1997	50	7	43	48	14	34	*	2=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:

Thinking about the news for a moment...

Q.3F1 What is the FIRST news story that comes to mind when you think about what's been in the news lately? **[OPEN END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY; FIRST FEW WORDS/BASIC CONCEPT IS SUFFICIENT]**

FIRST STORY MENTIONED:		Mar	Feb	Jan	Early Nov
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
31	Iraq war/troop casualties	25	25	25	19
15	Immigration/Border issues				
9	Other local news				
3	Recent hurricanes and response				
3	Weather/natural disasters (non-hurricane/tornadoes)				
3	Iran/Nuclear program				
3	CIA Leak/Leak of classified information/Libby scandal				
3	Gas prices/Energy costs/Oil				
3	Crime (general)				
3	Tornadoes				
2	Bush (general)				
1	Zacarias Moussaoui trial				
1	Terrorism (general)				
1	Duke rape story/scandal				
1	Tom Delay/resign/retire				
6	All others				
<u>12</u>	Don't Know/Refused				
100					

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Thinking about people who have been in the news lately...

Q.4F2 Aside from the president, can you tell me the name of someone you've heard about in the news lately **[PROBE IF NECESSARY: Just the FIRST name that comes to mind when you think about who's been in the news lately?]** **[OPEN END. RECORD UP TO THREE NAMES]**

FIRST NAME MENTIONED:	
13	Dick Cheney
6	Condoleezza Rice
6	Tom DeLay
4	Donald Rumsfeld
2	Lewis "Scooter" Libby
2	Arnold Schwarzenegger
2	John McCain/AZ Senator
2	Hillary Clinton/The Clintons
1	Zacarias Moussaoui
1	Saddam Hussein
1	Katie Couric
1	Barry Bonds
1	George W. Bush
1	Cynthia McKinney
1	Ted Kennedy
1	Bill Frist
1	John Kerry
23	Other
<u>31</u>	Don't Know/None
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.5 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE.]

	Very closely	Fairly closely	Not too closely	Not at all closely	DK/ Ref
a. News about the current situation in Iraq	43	36	13	7	1=100
March 2006	43	38	12	6	1=100
February, 2006	39	42	12	6	1=100
January, 2006	40	40	12	7	1=100
December, 2005	45	38	11	5	1=100
Early November, 2005	41	40	13	6	*=100
Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 ¹	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 ²	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100

¹ From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as “News about the war in Iraq.”

² From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as “Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq.” In Early September 2002 the story was listed as “Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq.”

Q.5 CONTINUED...

		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
b.	The issue of immigration	39	34	16	10	1=100
c.	Protests by students in France	8	20	31	40	1=100
d.	Tom DeLay retiring from Congress	14	20	28	36	2=100
	Early October, 2005 <i>DeLay criminal indictment</i> ³	18	25	26	30	1=100
	Mid May, 2005 <i>DeLay Ethics complaints</i> ⁴	8	21	28	42	1=100
e.	Katie Couric leaving the Today Show to work at CBS	12	19	26	42	1=100
f.	Accused terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui's death penalty trial	23	33	24	19	1=100

NO QUESTION 6

ROTATE Q.7 AND Q.8F1/Q.9F2

Q.7 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>Dec 2005</u>	<u>Mid- Sept 2005</u>	<u>Oct 2003</u>
37	Worse	39	35	38
17	Better	19	19	14
35	About the way it really is	35	38	36
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:

Q.8F1 In your opinion, are the news organizations you are familiar with being fair or unfair to the Bush administration? (VOL)

	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Unfair</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
April, 2006	56	31	13=100
Early November, 2005	50	31	19=100
Early July, 2003	62	24	14=100
February, 2001	65	19	16=100
Clinton			
Early September, 1998	52	40	8=100
February, 1998	49	44	7=100
September, 1994	67	26	7=100
May, 1994	52	36	12=100
August, 1993	66	21	13=100
June, 1993	51	43	6=100
February, 1993	72	17	11=100

³ In Early October 2005 the story was listed as: "The criminal indictment of House Majority Leader Tom DeLay for campaign finance violations."

⁴ In Mid-May 2005 the story was listed as: "How closely did you follow news about ethics complaints made against the House majority leader Tom DeLay --very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?"

Q.8F1 CONTINUED...

			(VOL)
	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Unfair</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Bush, Sr.			
January, 1992	77	15	8=100
November, 1990	72	15	13=100
January, 1990	76	14	10=100
August, 1989	82	12	6=100
Reagan			
January, 1988	66	21	13=100
January, 1987	67	25	8=100
July, 1985	78	12	10=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.9F2 Do you think the press has been too critical of the Bush Administration policies and performance, not critical enough or do you think that the press has handled this about right?

		Early <u>Nov 2005</u>	Early <u>July 2003</u>	Clinton <u>June 1993</u>
30	Press too critical	32	25	35
30	Not critical enough	28	23	12
34	About right	34	48	49
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.10 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?

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

ROTATE Q.11F2 AND Q.12F2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.11F2 Please tell me what one word best describes your impression of the Republican Party. Tell me just the ONE best word that comes to mind. **(OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS “DON’T KNOW”. ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE).**

Q.12F2 Please tell me what one word best describes your impression of the Democratic Party. Tell me just the ONE best word that comes to mind. **(OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS “DON’T KNOW”. ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE).**

The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.

Q.11	Republicans	Q.12	Democrats
53	Conservative	57	Liberal
22	Fair	31	Fair
19	Good	20	Good
17	Greedy	18	Weak
15	Rich	13	Too liberal
14	Business	11	Okay
10	Crooks	7	Confused
9	Corrupt	7	Disorganized
9	Money	7	Favorable
7	Confused	6	Crooks
7	For rich people	6	Hopeful
6	Dishonest	6	Poor
6	Great	5	People
6	Liars	5	Socialist
6	Okay	5	Stupid
6	Suck	4	Communists
5	Disappointed	4	Conservative
5	Lousy	4	Dishonest
5	Out of touch	4	Great
5	Poor	4	Hypocritical
4	Arrogant	4	Slow
4	Bad	4	Struggling
4	Disorganized	4	Unorganized
4	Moral	4	Untruthful
4	Realistic		
4	Stinks		
4	Untruthful		
4	Weak		

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.13 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.13, ASK:

Q.13a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,249]:

	<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>
April, 2006	41	51	8=100	August, 1995	50	43	7=100
February, 2006	41	50	9=100	1994 Election			
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8=100	November, 1994	45	43	12=100
2004 Election				Late October, 1994	47	44	9=100
June, 2004	41	48	11=100	Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
2002 Election				September, 1994	48	46	6=100
Early November, 2002	42	46	12=100	July, 1994	45	47	8=100
Early October, 2002	44	46	10=100				
Early September, 2002	44	46	10=100				
June, 2002	44	46	10=100				
February, 2002	46	45	9=100				
Early November, 2001	44	44	12=100				
2000 Election							
Early November, 2000	42	48	10=100				
Early October, 2000	43	47	10=100				
July, 2000	43	47	10=100				
February, 2000	44	47	9=100				
October, 1999	43	49	8=100				
June, 1999	40	50	10=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				
1996 Election							
November, 1996 ⁵	44	48	8=100				
October, 1996	42	49	9=100				
Late September, 1996	43	49	8=100				
Early September, 1996	43	51	6=100				
July, 1996	46	47	7=100				
June, 1996	44	50	6=100				
March, 1996	44	49	7=100				
January, 1996	46	47	7=100				
October, 1995	48	48	4=100				

⁵

November 1996 trend based on likely voters.

ASK ALL:

Thinking ahead...

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=1249]:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) Congressperson <u>not running</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
April, 2006	57	28	1	14=100
February, 2006	59	28	1	12=100
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
Late 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=1249]:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
April, 2006	34	53	13=100
February, 2006	36	49	15=100
September, 2005	36	48	16=100
Early October, 2002	39	38	23=100
June, 2002	45	37	18=100
October, 2000	40	34	26=100
July, 1999	41	47	12=100
Late October, 1998	41	37	22=100
Early October, 1998	39	39	22=100
Early September, 1998	46	36	18=100
March, 1998	45	41	14=100
January, 1998	44	43	13=100
August, 1997	45	42	13=100

Q.15 CONTINUED...

	(VOL)		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Early September, 1996	43	43	14=100
November, 1994	31	51	18=100
Late October, 1994	31	56	13=100
Early October, 1994	28	56	16=100

Q.16 Will the issue of which party controls Congress, the Republicans or the Democrats, be a factor in your vote for Congress this year, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1249]:

	Early June 2004	Early Nov 2002	Early Oct 2002	Early Sept 2002	June 2002	Feb 2002	Early Oct 2000	July 2000	Late Oct 1998	Early Oct 1998	Early Sept 1998	Early Aug 1998	Early June 1998
56 Yes, will be a factor	43	48	42	44	47	46	46	46	46	47	41	44	45
39 No, will not	51	49	55	51	50	49	50	49	50	49	56	53	51
<u>5</u> DK/Ref (VOL)	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.17 Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote for George W. Bush, as a vote against George W. Bush, or isn't George W. Bush much of a factor in your vote?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1249]:

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	Not a factor	(VOL) DK/ Ref
April, 2006	17	34	46	3=100
February, 2006	18	31	47	4=100
Early November, 2002	29	16	49	6=100
Early October, 2002	30	20	44	6=100
Early September, 2002	29	15	51	5=100
February, 2002	34	9	50	7=100
Clinton: Late October, 1998	20	17	58	5=100
Clinton: Early October, 1998	19	23	52	6=100
Clinton: Early September, 1998	18	16	63	3=100
Clinton: Late August, 1998	20	17	61	2=100
Clinton: Early August, 1998	21	18	57	4=100
Clinton: June, 1998	20	18	57	5=100
Clinton: March, 1998	21	15	59	5=100
Clinton: Early September, 1996	24	18	51	7=100
Clinton: November, 1994	17	21	55	7=100
Clinton: Late October, 1994	17	21	57	5=100
Clinton: Early October, 1994	17	23	54	6=100
CBS/NYT Bush: 10/28-31, 1990	19	15	61	6=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 10/24-28, 1986	26	12	55	7=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 9/28-10/1, 1986	26	16	51	7=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 10/23-28, 1982	23	21	51	5=100

Q.18 Some people say we should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans. Do you agree or disagree?

		Early										ABC/ Wash Post ⁶	
		June	Oct	June	Aug	Sept	Aug	July	Oct	April	July	Jan	Sept
		2004	2003	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1995	1994	1984	1982
53	Agree	50	46	52	54	46	47	58	59	57	53	41	44
40	Disagree	43	44	42	40	47	46	37	37	38	43	48	44
<u>7</u>	DK/Ref (VOL)	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

On another subject...

Q.19 Compared to recent Congresses, would you say THIS Congress has accomplished more, accomplished less, or accomplished about the same amount?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1249]:

		Nov	June	July	Aug	Early	Early	Early	Nov	April
		2002	2002	2000	1999	Oct	Sept	Aug	1997	1997
		1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	1997
7	More	11	16	21	13	24	24	18	25	10
41	Less	27	22	16	23	23	17	15	13	24
47	Same	54	57	56	60	49	55	62	59	58
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK IF "LESS" (2 IN Q.19) [N=602]:

Q.20 Who do you think is most to blame for this [READ AND ROTATE]?

58	Republican leaders in Congress
13	Democratic leaders in Congress
24	Both/Neither/Someone else (VOL)
<u>5</u>	Don't Know/Refused (VOL)
100	

⁶ In January 1984, the ABC/Washington Post trend was worded: "Can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with the following statement, or if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statement: We should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans." In September 1982, the ABC/Washington Post trend was worded: "I'm going to read a few statements. For each, can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with it, or if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statements... We should have a third party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans."

ASK ALL:

Thinking about immigration for a moment...

ROTATE Q.21 AND Q.22

Q.21 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the nation's immigration policy?

		Feb <u>2006</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>
25	Approve	23	24
62	Disapprove	57	54
<u>13</u>	Don't Know/Refused (VOL)	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>
100		100	100

Q.22 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling the nation's immigration policy?

21	Approve
64	Disapprove
<u>15</u>	Don't Know/Refused (VOL)
100	

ROTATE C.1 AND C.2

C.1 One proposal would allow undocumented immigrants who have been in the U.S. for several years to gain legal working status and the possibility of citizenship in the future. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

58	Favor
35	Oppose
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

C.2 One proposal would make it a criminal offense for an American to assist an undocumented immigrant to remain in the U.S. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

45	Favor
47	Oppose
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

Thinking about the political parties for a moment...

Q.23 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 is better described by the phrase.. (INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE)?

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Ref</u>
a. Able to manage the federal government well	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

Q.23 CONTINUED...

			(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	DK/	
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Ref</u>	
	July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5=100
	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 an honest and ethical way	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	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 concerned with the needs of people like me	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

Q.23 CONTINUED...

			(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	DK/
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Ref</u>
e. Is more influenced by lobbyists and special interests	45	28	14	2	11=100

Q.24 Do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job of ...**[INSERT ITEM, ROTATE]**

			(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	DK/
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a. Reforming government in Washington	28	44	5	15	8=100
February, 2006	29	42	7	12	10=100
March, 1998 ⁷	37	35	8	10	10=100
July, 1994	39	40	3	11	7=100
b. Dealing with immigration	27	43	6	11	13=100
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:

Q.25F1 In your view, does the **[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE]** or the **[NEXT ITEM]** have better political leaders?

		Feb
		<u>2006</u>
38	Republican Party	41
40	Democratic Party	37
4	Both equally (VOL.)	5
9	Neither (VOL.)	8
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>9</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.26F2 In your view, does the **[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE]** or the **[NEXT ITEM]** have stronger political leaders?

53	Republican Party
26	Democratic Party
4	Both equally (VOL.)
8	Neither (VOL.)
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

⁷

In March 1998 and July 1994 the item was worded "reforming government."

ASK ALL:

Q.27 Thinking about the Democratic Party, who do YOU think of as the leader of the Democratic Party these days? [SINGLE RESPONSE, DO NOT READ OPTIONS. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE; ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]

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

Q.28 Now I'd like your views on some people. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL) Never	(VOL) Can't
		Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Heard of	rate/Ref
a.	George W. Bush	40	15	25	57	35	22	*	3=100
	Late October, 2005	46	17	29	51	29	22	*	3=100
	July, 2005	51	22	29	46	25	21	0	3=100
	Late March, 2005	53	23	30	45	27	18	0	2=100
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	56	26	30	42	23	19	*	2=100
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	57	27	30	40	20	20	0	3=100
	Early September, 2004	52	25	27	43	24	19	*	5=100
	August, 2004	58	27	31	39	22	17	0	3=100
	June, 2004	52	19	33	45	22	23	*	3=100
	Early February, 2004	53	21	32	44	25	19	0	3=100
	January 29-February 1, 2004	52	--	--	47	--	--	--	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	January 2-5, 2004	65	--	--	35	--	--	--	*=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	October 6-8, 2003	60	--	--	39	--	--	--	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	June 9-10, 2003	66	--	--	33	--	--	--	1=100
	April, 2003	72	37	35	25	11	14	0	3=100
	January, 2003	70	28	42	28	10	18	0	2=100
	December, 2002	68	35	33	27	11	16	0	5=100
	July, 2001	61	22	39	35	14	21	*	4=100
	January, 2001	60	24	36	33	12	21	0	7=100
	May, 2000	58	18	40	31	12	19	1	10=100

⁸ In February 2006, the "Other" category did not offer a SPECIFY option, meaning interviewers were not instructed to enter responses that were not included on a list of pre-coded names. Ted Kennedy and Joe Lieberman were therefore not coded.

Q.28 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL) Never Heard of	(VOL) Can't rate/Ref
		Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly		
	March, 1999 ⁹	61	21	40	21	7	14	4	14=100
	November, 1997	54	13	41	18	6	12	9	19=100
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:									
b.F1	Bill Clinton	61	27	34	36	18	18	0	3=100
	Late October, 2005	62	26	36	34	18	16	*	4=100
	Late March, 2005	64	24	40	32	13	19	0	4=100
	December, 2002	46	17	29	49	27	22	*	5=100
	July, 2001	50	20	30	46	27	19	0	4=100
	January, 2001	64	23	41	34	17	17	0	2=100
	May, 2000	48	17	31	47	28	19	*	5=100
	March, 1999	55	21	34	42	23	19	*	3=100
	December, 1998	55	23	32	43	24	19	0	2=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	15	37	44	24	20	0	4=100
	Early September, 1998	57	18	39	41	23	18	0	2=100
	Late August, 1998	54	18	36	44	24	20	0	2=100
	March, 1998	62	22	40	35	16	19	*	3=100
	November, 1997	63	19	44	35	14	21	0	2=100
	October, 1997	62	15	47	36	16	20	*	2=100
	September, 1997	62	18	44	35	14	21	0	3=100
	August, 1997	61	16	45	38	17	21	0	1=100
	April, 1997	61	17	44	37	16	21	*	2=100
	January, 1997	66	17	49	32	14	18	*	2=100
	October, 1996 (RVs)	57	12	45	41	19	22	0	2=100
	June, 1996	61	16	45	37	14	23	*	2=100
	April, 1996	57	16	41	40	16	24	0	3=100
	February, 1996	55	20	35	43	21	22	0	2=100
	January, 1996	56	13	43	42	15	27	0	2=100
	August, 1995	49	13	36	49	20	29	0	2=100
	February, 1995	55	14	41	42	17	25	0	3=100
	December, 1994	51	17	34	46	22	24	0	3=100
	July, 1994	58	15	43	41	16	25	*	1=100
	May, 1993	60	18	42	35	12	23	0	5=100
	July, 1992	59	17	42	34	9	25	0	7=100
	June, 1992	46	10	36	47	14	33	1	6=100
	May, 1992	53	11	42	42	10	32	*	5=100
	March, 1992	53	10	43	40	11	29	1	6=100
	February, 1992	59	15	44	31	7	24	2	8=100
	January, 1992	37	9	28	15	4	11	27	21=100
	November, 1991	30	5	25	10	2	8	39	21=100
c.F1	John Kerry	45	10	35	44	20	24	2	9=100
	Late October, 2005	46	12	34	43	20	23	2	9=100
	Late March, 2005	49	13	36	41	17	24	2	8=100
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	56	21	35	40	16	24	0	3=100
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	53	16	37	41	16	25	*	6=100
	Early September, 2004	49	17	32	43	19	24	*	8=100

⁹

In March 1999 and November 1997 the category was listed: "Texas Governor George W. Bush."

Q.28 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL) Never	(VOL) Can't
		Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Heard of	rate/Ref
	August, 2004	56	23	33	36	14	22	1	7=100
	June, 2004	50	11	39	41	16	25	0	9=100
	Early February, 2004	58	14	44	28	8	20	1	13=100
	January, 2003	30	6	24	16	4	12	36	18=100
d.F1	John Edwards	47	10	37	27	9	18	11	15=100
	Late October, 2005	50	12	38	23	6	17	10	17=100
	Mid-October, 2004 ¹⁰	58	18	40	31	13	18	1	10=100
	Early October, 2004	50	16	34	28	11	17	2	20=100
	Early September, 2004	54	18	36	30	10	20	2	14=100
	August, 2004	61	24	37	25	6	19	2	12=100
	Early February, 2004	45	9	36	25	8	17	5	24=100
	January, 2003	23	4	19	14	3	11	40	23=100
e.F1	Dick Cheney	36	11	25	55	29	26	3	6=100
	Late October, 2005	43	12	31	46	22	24	2	9=100
	Late March, 2005	48	15	33	42	20	22	2	8=100
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	48	17	31	46	25	21	*	6=100
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	48	14	34	41	20	21	*	11=100
	Early September, 2004	43	13	30	42	23	19	2	13=100
	August, 2004	47	13	34	41	20	21	2	10=100
	April, 2003	60	21	39	27	12	15	3	10=100
	December, 2002	59	20	39	26	10	16	5	10=100
	July, 2001	58	19	39	26	6	20	6	10=100
	January, 2001	62	20	42	18	5	13	2	18=100
	December, 1994	42	10	32	19	5	14	21	18=100
	March, 1991 ¹¹	68	33	35	6	2	4	10	16=100
	May, 1990	20	3	17	11	3	8	44	25=100
f.F1	Condoleezza Rice	59	26	33	27	10	17	6	8=100
	Late October, 2005	60	23	37	25	9	16	6	9=100
	Late March, 2005	57	22	35	28	11	17	5	10=100
g.F1	John McCain	54	14	40	26	7	19	8	12=100
	Late October, 2005	56	15	41	19	5	14	10	15=100
	Late March, 2005	59	15	44	17	4	13	8	16=100
	July, 2001	51	14	37	22	5	17	13	14=100
	January, 2001	59	18	41	15	3	12	9	17=100
	May, 2000	54	14	40	20	5	15	11	15=100
ABC/WP:	February, 2000	60	--	--	21	--	--	--	19=100
CNN/USA Today/Gallup:	December, 1999 ¹²	57	--	--	11	--	--	14	18=100

¹⁰ Mid-October 2004 and earlier trend numbers are based on registered voters.

¹¹ In March 1991 and May 1990 the category was listed: "Richard Cheney."

¹² For the CNN/USAToday/Gallup Poll in December 1999, the category was listed: "Arizona Senator John McCain."

Q.28 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL) Never	(VOL) Can't
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Heard of</u>	<u>rate/Ref</u>
h.F1	Bill Frist	24	5	19	29	12	17	32	15=100
	Late October, 2005	21	3	18	26	8	18	35	18=100
	January, 2003	27	7	20	12	2	10	42	19=100
i.F1	Mark Warner	21	3	18	16	4	12	43	20=100
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:									
j.F2	Hillary Clinton	54	20	34	42	21	21	1	3=100
	Late October, 2005	56	20	36	38	19	19	1	5=100
	Late March, 2005	57	22	35	36	17	19	*	7=100
	December 2002	47	15	32	44	23	21	1	8=100
	July, 2001	53	20	33	42	23	19	1	4=100
	January, 2001	60	25	35	35	16	19	*	5=100
	May, 2000	49	15	34	42	22	20	1	8=100
	Early December, 1998	66	32	34	31	15	16	*	3=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	58	24	34	36	18	18	*	6=100
	Early September, 1998	64	24	40	31	13	18	0	5=100
	Late August, 1998	63	25	38	34	13	21	*	3=100
	March, 1998	65	26	39	31	14	17	*	4=100
	January, 1997	57	17	40	40	17	23	*	3=100
	June, 1996	53	13	40	43	17	26	*	4=100
	April, 1996	49	12	37	46	19	27	0	5=100
	February, 1996	42	14	28	54	27	27	0	4=100
	January, 1996	42	10	32	54	26	28	0	4=100
	October, 1995	58	14	44	38	14	24	--	4=100
	August, 1995	49	16	33	47	22	25	*	4=100
	December, 1994	50	17	33	45	20	25	1	4=100
	July, 1994	57	19	38	40	18	22	1	2=100
	May, 1993	60	19	41	29	11	18	1	10=100
k.F2	Howard Dean	31	5	26	38	15	23	19	12=100
	Late October, 2005	29	4	25	37	15	22	19	15=100
	Late March, 2005	32	6	26	31	11	20	12	25=100
	January, 2003	13	2	11	12	3	9	57	18=100
l.F2	Joe Biden	28	7	21	20	5	15	38	14=100
	Late October, 2005	21	4	17	20	6	14	43	16=100
	September, 1987	22	4	18	15	4	11	25	38=100
m.F2	Donald Rumsfeld	38	10	28	46	21	25	8	8=100
	Late October, 2005	36	8	28	41	18	23	14	9=100
	Late March, 2005	39	10	29	41	18	23	7	13=100
	April, 2003	61	24	37	19	6	13	9	11=100
n.F2	Rudy Giuliani	70	26	44	14	4	10	10	6=100
	Late October, 2005	63	22	41	17	6	11	10	10=100
	Late March, 2005	60	20	40	17	5	12	7	16=100
	May, 2000	37	9	28	18	6	12	26	19=100
o.F2	Tom DeLay	23	5	18	49	25	24	15	13=100
	Late October, 2005	18	2	16	40	20	20	27	15=100
	Gallup/CNN/USAToday: April, 2005	27	--	--	31	--	--	26	16=100

Q.28 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL) Never	(VOL) Can't
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Heard of</u>	<u>rate/Ref</u>
p.F2	George Allen	20	4	16	14	4	10	49	17=100
q.F2	Russell Feingold	19	4	15	19	7	12	43	19=100

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.29 Looking ahead to the next presidential election, would you like to see a president who offers policies and programs similar to those of the Bush administration, OR would you like to see a president who offers different policies and programs?

		Early	----- <i>Clinton Administration</i> -----				
		Oct	June	Feb	Aug	June	Feb
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>
	Policies and programs similar to the						
23	Bush Administration	25	40	41	43	43	54
70	Different policies and programs	69	52	51	50	50	41
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.30 Now I am going to read you a couple of statements. For each, please tell me if you completely agree with it, mostly agree with it, mostly DISagree with it, or completely DISagree with it. (The first one is...) **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS)**

		Completely	Mostly	Mostly	Completely	(VOL.)
		<u>agree</u>	<u>agree</u>	<u>disagree</u>	<u>disagree</u>	DK/ Ref
a.	I am tired of all the problems associated with the Bush administration	36	26	23	12	3=100
	September, 2000 <i>Clinton</i>	48	24	16	8	4=100
	August, 1999 <i>Clinton</i>	36	35	19	8	2=100
	March, 1999 <i>Clinton</i>	48	26	15	8	3=100
b.	I wish George W. Bush could run for a third term	8	13	21	56	2=100
	September, 2000 <i>Clinton</i>	16	11	16	55	2=100
	August, 1999 <i>Clinton</i>	12	16	24	47	1=100
	March, 1999 <i>Clinton</i>	16	12	17	54	1=100

Q.31 Last week, documents were released indicating that President Bush may have authorized his staff to leak pre-war intelligence about Iraq to the press in order to undermine war critics. How much have you heard about this... a lot, a little or nothing at all?

32	A lot
46	A little
22	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

IF HEARD “A LOT” or “A LITTLE” (1,2 IN Q.31) ASK [N=1229]:

Q.32 From what you’ve read and heard about this, do you think President Bush acted improperly, or don’t you think so?

57 Yes, acted improperly
34 No, did not act improperly
2 Too early to tell (VOL.)
7 Don’t know/Refused (VOL.)
100

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.33 How concerned are you, if at all, about the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington these days? [READ]

46 Very concerned
29 Somewhat concerned
13 Not too concerned –OR–
9 Not at all concerned
3 Don’t know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100

Q.34 Do you think bribery and corruption in Congress is more common now than it used to be, or no different from the past?

47 More common now
49 No different from the past
4 Don’t know/Refused (VOL.)
100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:

Q.35F1 Congress is considering a law which would place stricter limits on the value of gifts that House and Senate members can accept from lobbyists. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

		Sept 1995
76	Favor	<u>79</u>
19	Oppose	16
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>5</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.36F2 Congress is considering a law which would place stricter limits on the value of gifts that House and Senate members can accept from lobbyists. Do you think a law like this would help to reduce the influence of special interests, or do you think it wouldn't make much difference?

45 Would reduce influence
52 Wouldn't make much difference
3 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.37 Which comes closer to your view about the tax cuts passed under President Bush over the past few years?
[READ IN ORDER]

		Dec <u>2004</u>	Early Sept <u>2004</u>
25	All of the tax cuts should be made permanent	28	27
36	Tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed, while others stay in place, OR	35	31
28	All of the tax cuts should be repealed	25	28
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>
100		100	100

NO QUESTIONS 38-44

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.45 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	Right <u>decision</u>	Wrong <u>decision</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Ref</u>
April, 2006	47	46	7=100
March, 2006	45	49	6=100
February, 2006	51	44	5=100
January, 2006	45	47	8=100
December, 2005	47	48	5=100
Late October, 2005	48	45	7=100
Early October, 2005	44	50	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (RVs)	48	41	11=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100

Q.45 CONTINUED...

	<u>Right</u> <u>decision</u>	<u>Wrong</u> <u>decision</u>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	74	19	7=100
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	74	19	7=100
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	72	20	8=100
<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	74	21	5=100
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	74	21	5=100
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	71	22	7=100
Late January, 1991	77	15	8=100

Q.46 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? [READ IN ORDER]

	<u>Very</u> <u>well</u>	<u>Fairly</u> <u>well</u>	<u>Not too</u> <u>well</u>	<u>Not at all</u> <u>well</u>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3=100
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6=100
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3=100
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5=100
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3=100
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100
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>	61	32	3	1	3=100
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	60	32	3	3	2=100
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	55	37	3	2	3=100
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	39	46	8	2	5=100
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	45	41	6	2	6=100
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	65	25	2	1	7=100

Q.47 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>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
April, 2006	48	48	4=100
March, 2006	44	50	6=100
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 ¹³	51	44	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

IF “KEEP TROOPS IN IRAQ” (1 IN Q.47)

Q.48 Do you think more troops are needed in Iraq right now, or do you think there are already enough troops there to do the job?

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

¹³ 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?”

IF “BRING TROOPS HOME” (2 IN Q.47)

Q.49 Should the U.S. remove all troops from Iraq immediately, or should the withdrawal of troops be gradual over the next year or two?

		Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>
18	Remove all troops immediately	14	17
29	Gradual withdrawal over the next year or two	32	28
<u>1</u> 48%	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u> 48%	<u>1</u> 46%

ASK ALL:

Q.50 In the long run, do you think the war in Iraq has increased the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., lessened the chances, or has it made no difference?

		Early Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>	Mid-Oct <u>2004</u>	Early Sept <u>2004</u>	Nov <u>2002</u> ¹⁴
37	Increased	41	45	36	34	45
27	Lessened	25	22	32	32	18
33	No difference	32	30	28	31	30
<u>3</u> 100	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>7</u> 100

Q.51 Thinking about the people you know, would you say they are becoming LESS emotionally involved in the news from Iraq than they were, MORE emotionally involved, or are the people you know about as involved as they had been?

		June <u>2005</u>	Jan <u>2005</u>	Aug <u>2004</u>	June <u>2004</u>	May <u>2004</u>
37	Less emotionally involved	44	35	36	35	26
21	More emotionally involved	15	19	19	23	33
38	About as involved as they have been	36	44	41	37	36
1	Mixed / Some more, some less (VOL.)	1	*	*	1	1
<u>3</u> 100	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>4</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100

¹⁴ The question from the November 2002 Global Attitudes survey was worded: “In the long run, do you think a war with Iraq to end Saddam Hussein’s rule is likely to increase the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., lessen the chances, or will it make no difference?”

Q.52 Some people are comparing Iraq to the war in Vietnam. Do you think Iraq will turn out to be another Vietnam, or do you think the U.S. will accomplish its goals in Iraq?¹⁵

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

Q.53 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

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

NO QUESTIONS 54-55

Q.56 As I read a few specific things about Iraq, tell me if you think we are making progress or losing ground in each area. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]?

		Making <u>progress</u>	Losing <u>ground</u>	(VOL) No <u>change</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Ref</u>
ASK ITEMS a THRU d OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=764]:					
a.F1	Training Iraqi security forces so they can replace U.S. troops	55	30	1	14=100
	March, 2006	56	30	1	13=100
	January, 2006	65	22	1	12=100
	December, 2005	61	27	1	11=100
b.F1	Reducing the number of civilian casualties there	28	56	3	13=100
	March, 2006	27	56	3	14=100
	January, 2006	32	54	3	11=100
	December, 2005	35	53	3	9=100
c.F1	Preventing terrorists from using Iraq as a base for attacks against the U.S. and its allies	44	43	3	10=100
	March, 2006	42	44	2	12=100
	January, 2006	52	33	2	13=100
	December, 2005	48	41	2	9=100

¹⁵

In mid-September 2005 and earlier, the question was worded: "...comparing Iraq to the war in Vietnam thirty years ago...".

Q.56 CONTINUED...

		<u>Making</u>	<u>Losing</u>	(VOL) No	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
		<u>progress</u>	<u>ground</u>	<u>change</u>	
d.F1	Establishing democracy in Iraq	51	38	3	8=100
	March, 2006	50	38	2	10=100
	January, 2006	62	26	2	10=100
	December, 2005	58	32	2	8=100

ASK ITEMS e THRU g OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

e.F2	Defeating the insurgents militarily	40	46	2	12=100
	March, 2006	36	51	1	12=100
	January, 2006	46	38	3	13=100
	December, 2005	44	41	3	12=100
f.F2	Preventing a civil war between various religious and ethnic groups	26	59	3	12=100
	March, 2006	24	66	2	8=100
	January, 2006	34	48	4	14=100
	December, 2005	36	49	3	12=100
g.F2	Rebuilding roads, power plants and other services in Iraq	55	26	1	18=100
	March, 2006	53	29	1	17=100
	January, 2006	59	22	1	18=100

ASK ALL:

Q.57 Since the start of military action in Iraq, about how many U.S. soldiers have been killed? To the best of your knowledge, have there been around 500, around 1,500, around 2,500, or around 3,500 military deaths in Iraq?

TREND FOR COMPARISON (Correct answers in bold)

		<u>Oct</u>		<u>June</u>	<u>April</u>	
		<u>2005</u>		<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u> ¹⁶	
4	Around 500	5	Around 500	4	28	Under 500
16	Around 1,500	23	Around 1,000	13	55	500 to 1,000
53	Around 2,500 {correct}	48	Around 2,000	54	6	1,000 to 2,000
19	Around 3,500	19	Around 3,000	24	4	More than 2,000
1	Other (VOL.)	1	Other (VOL.)	--	--	Other (VOL.)
<u>7</u>	DK/Ref (VOL.)	<u>4</u>	DK/Ref (VOL.)	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	DK/Ref (VOL.)
100		100		100	100	

¹⁶ In April 2004 the question included "since the start of the military action in Iraq, last March..."

Q.58 Do you think the people of Iraq will be better off or worse off in the long run than they were now that Saddam Hussein has been removed from power by the US and its allies?

		Feb <u>2004</u>	May <u>2003</u>	March <u>2003</u>
78	Better off	84	87	79
13	Worse off	9	6	8
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL:

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) <u>No Preference</u>	(VOL) <u>Other Party</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
Late March, 2005	29	32	36	2	*	1=100
Yearly Totals						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100
				No Preference/ <u>Other/DK</u>		
1996	29	33	33	5=100		
1995	32	30	34	4=100		
1994	30	32	34	4=100		
1993	27	34	34	5=100		
1992	28	33	35	4=100		
1991	31	32	33	4=100		
1990	31	33	30	6=100		

PARTY CONTINUED...

	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<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>
April, 2006	12	17	10=39%
March, 2006	11	14	13=38%
February, 2006	11	16	10=37%
January, 2006	10	16	14=40%
December, 2005	10	16	11=37%
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%

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

Q.59 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=646]:

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

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

Q.60 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=720]:

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