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**Government Faulted on Vets' Care, Military Ratings Slip Post-Walter Reed**  
**DEMOCRATS FAIL TO IMPRESS IN FIRST 100 DAYS**

**Also inside...**

- Reps see McCain, Giuliani and Romney as more moderate than "self"
- Hillary and Obama Backers differ little on Iraq
- Few Can Cite Congress's Accomplishments
- Dems not seen as over-investigating

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## Government Faulted on Vets' Care, Military Ratings Slip Post-Walter Reed

### DEMOCRATS FAIL TO IMPRESS IN FIRST 100 DAYS

As the Democratic-led Congress approaches the 100-day mark, pluralities of Americans approve of the way that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid are handling their leadership roles. However, the public gives Democrats mixed reviews for delivering on their campaign promises and for their policies and proposals. Slightly more disapprove of the Democrats' policies than approve (42% disapprove vs. 37% approve).

Today's Democratic congressional leaders are far less visible – but also less controversial – than former House Speaker Newt Gingrich was at a similar point early in the 104th Congress. In April 1995, Republicans were seen as keeping their promises by 59% of the public – far more than the 40% who currently say that about the Democrats. However, Americans were then evenly split in their views of the GOP's proposals.

Gingrich, in particular, was highly visible (fully 85% felt they could rate his performance by 100 days in office), but highly divisive (43% approved and 42% disapproved of his performance). By comparison, three-in-ten do not know enough about Nancy Pelosi to rate her performance. On balance, however, more than twice as many approve of Pelosi's job performance than disapprove (48%-22%).

Congressional Leaders, Then and Now		
	<i>Reps</i>	<i>Dems</i>
	<u>1995</u>	<u>2007</u>
Policies & proposals of leaders	%	%
Approve	44	37
Disapprove	43	42
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100
Gingrich/Pelosi job		
Approve	43	48
Disapprove	42	22
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>30</u>
	100	100
Dole/Reid job		
Approve	59	32
Disapprove	25	22
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>46</u>
	100	100
Is party keeping its promises?		
Yes	59	40
No	30	38
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>22</u>
	100	100
So far, have they accomplished...		
More than expected	18	5
Less than expected	12	19
About what expected	65	64
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted March 21-25 among 1,503 adults, finds that the public remains satisfied that the Democrats won control of Congress, though positive feelings have declined since shortly after the November elections. A 54% majority says they are happy that the Democrats prevailed in the elections, down from 60% who held that view in the week following Election Day. Similarly, 54% say they expect the Democratic leaders will be successful in getting their programs passed into law, compared with 59% in November.

Dems' Election Glow Dims				
	<i>Republican Congress</i>		<i>Democratic Congress</i>	
	Dec 1994	Apr 1995	Nov 2006	Mar 2007
Happy they won?	%	%	%	%
Happy	57	52	60	54
Unhappy	31	36	24	32
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100
Expect the party's leaders to be...				
Successful	62	63	59	54
Unsuccessful	24	28	22	32
Mixed (Vol.)	4	3	6	4
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100

While enthusiasm for the Democrats' victory has slipped, the party's image continues to improve relative to the GOP's. Nearly half (47%) say the Democratic Party can better manage the federal government, compared with 31% who choose the Republican Party. A year ago, the Democrats' edge on management was just four points. In addition, slightly more Americans now say the Democratic Party, rather than the Republican Party, has stronger leaders, wiping out the GOP's substantial advantage on this leadership trait.

The survey finds that in the wake of reports describing shoddy medical treatment for military personnel at the Walter Reed Army Hospital, the public has a low opinion of how well the government is doing in caring for the troops. Only about a quarter of Americans (26%) say the government has done an excellent or good job in providing medical care to soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Military's Image Slips			
	Fav %	Unfav %	Can't rate %
March 2007	77	17	6=100
Jan 2007	84	11	5=100
October 2005	82	12	6=100
March 2005	87	9	4=100
June 2004	85	10	5=100
May 2002*	93	5	2=100
Mid-Sept. 2001*	94	4	2=100

\*Newsweek surveys

Opinions of the military remain highly positive. Favorable views of the military outnumber negative ones by more than four-to-one (77%-17%). But this is the first time since the 9/11 attacks that favorable opinions of the military have slipped below 80%. In addition, even fewer people express favorable opinions of "military leaders" than of "the military" (65% vs. 77%).

The survey shows that Rudolph Giuliani and John McCain, the two front-runners for the Republican presidential nomination, are generally viewed as ideological moderates. Majorities of Republican voters and those who lean Republican rate both candidates as close to the middle on

a six-point ideological scale. By contrast, most Republican voters rate George W. Bush – and Newt Gingrich – at more conservative points on the ideological spectrum.

While the war in Iraq is the dominant issue in Washington, it is having surprisingly little impact on the presidential nomination contests in the two major parties. For instance, despite McCain's strong public stance in favor of Bush's troop surge plan, he is not demonstrating particular strength among Republicans who say more troops are needed in Iraq. About the same proportions of Republican and Republican-leaning voters who support Giuliani, and who support McCain, believe more troops are needed in Iraq. Similarly, among Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters, comparable percentages of Hillary Clinton supporters and Barack Obama supporters favor withdrawing U.S. troops from as Iraq as soon as possible.

### Few Can Cite Congressional Accomplishments

Nearly seven-in-ten Americans (69%) cannot name anything important the new Congress has done so far. This is higher than the 61% who could name nothing after the Republicans' first 100 days in the spring of 1995.

Congress's most visible action has been on Iraq; 16% cite the war and efforts to bring the troops home as the most important thing Congress has done. Oversight and accountability (4%), and challenging President Bush (4%), are the other visible actions on the part of the new Congress. The Democrats' domestic policy priorities have gotten little notice; just 2% cite legislative action on raising the minimum wage as Congress's most important accomplishment.

The Republicans' domestic agenda received modestly more attention in April 1995. Overall, 28% cited issues or legislation as the most important thing that the new Congress had accomplished, with 8% mentioning the balanced budget or spending, 7% tax cuts, and 6% welfare reform.

What Congress Has Done	
	2007 %
Issues/Legislation (NET)	22
Iraq War/Troop withdrawal	16
Minimum wage	2
Health care	1
Other issues	4
Oversight/Accountability	4
Opposing Bush	4
Creating problems	1
Other	4
Done nothing/Don't know	69
	1995
Issues/Legislation (NET)	28
Balance budget/spending	8
Tax cuts	7
Welfare reform	6
Line-item veto	3
Contract with America	3
Other issues	3
Change in Washington	5
Other	6
Done nothing/Don't know	61
Figures add to more than 100% because multiple answers were allowed.	

### Congressional Investigations

The Democrats' stepped-up pace of investigations has not drawn much in the way of negative reaction. Just 31% believe Congress is spending too much time investigating possible government wrongdoing, while slightly more (35%) say they are spending too little time on this, and a quarter believe that the time spent on investigations has been appropriate.

Republicans are more likely than Democrats or independents to say that Congress is spending too much time on investigating possible wrongdoing. Still, only about half of Republicans (48%) express this view, while nearly as many say Congress is spending too little time (24%), or the right amount of time (20%), on investigations.

#### Little Evidence of Investigation Backlash

Time Congress is spending investigating possible wrongdoing	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Too little	35	24	40	39
Too much	31	48	21	29
Right amount	25	20	31	24
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100

In addition, more independents say Congress is spending too little time on investigations than too much (by 39%-29%). Roughly the same number of Democrats as independents say Congress is devoting too little time to investigations.

#### Democratic Constituencies Mostly Satisfied

Liberal Democrats nationwide tend to be more satisfied with the congressional leadership compared with their more moderate and conservative counterparts. Overall, 76% of liberal Democrats approve of the policies and proposals Democratic leaders have put forward, compared with 58% among moderate and conservative Democrats. Liberal Democrats also give the party higher marks for keeping its campaign promises (68% compared with 57% among moderate and conservative Democrats).

Pluralities of all Democrats say they would like to see Congress spend more time investigating possible government wrongdoing, but 36% of liberals within the party say the leaders are handling this about right, compared with 28% of the party's moderates and conservatives.

Democrats are critical of how the Congressional leaders are dealing with Iraq – overall just 29% of Democrats say Congress is doing an excellent or good job in this regard. Liberals are somewhat more positive (35% excellent/good vs. 26% among moderates and conservatives), but majorities of both subgroups give Congress poor ratings in this regard.

#### Democrats Rate Their Leaders

	<i>Democrats who are...</i>	
	Lib- eral	Mod/ Cons
<b>Policies &amp; proposals of Dem leaders</b>	%	%
Approve	76	58
Disapprove	13	23
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>19</u>
	100	100
<b>Is party keeping its promises?</b>		
Yes	68	57
No	16	23
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>
	100	100
<b>Investigating wrongdoing in govt</b>		
Too little	44	38
Too much	13	26
Right amount	36	28
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100
<b>Handling of Iraq</b>		
Excellent/Good	35	26
Only fair/Poor	61	70
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100

## Independents Critical of Dem Policies

Independents have mixed reactions to the new Democratic leadership in Congress. By a wide margin (52% to 30%), independents say they are happy the Democrats won the majority. However, many independents express dissatisfaction with what the Democrats are doing. Nearly half (47%) of independents say they disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress while just 30% approve. Independents were less critical of the Republican leaders' plans and policies in 1995. Roughly four-in-ten (39%) approved of their agenda, while 43% disapproved.

## Party Images

The Democratic Party's image advantage over the Republican Party – which helped them win a majority in the 2006 midterm elections – has continued to widen. The percentage saying the Democrats are better able to manage the federal government has risen from 39% roughly a year ago to 44% just prior to the election to 47% today; the Democratic Party currently holds a 16-point advantage over the GOP in this area.

Similarly, by a margin of 43% to 25% more Americans say the Democratic Party, rather than the Republican Party, governs in a more honest and ethical way. This compares to a slimmer 36% to 28% Democratic edge a year ago.

The most striking shift in evaluations of the parties comes in ratings of the leaders themselves. Despite trailing the Democrats on a number of issues and traits, Republican leaders were consistently rated as the “stronger” leaders throughout the 2006 election cycle. But this wide advantage has now vanished – with slightly more saying the Democratic Party's leaders are stronger (41% vs. 36%). Similarly, 44% say the Democratic Party has “better” leaders while

### Democrats' Wide Image Advantage

<i>Which party...</i>	Dem	Rep	Other/	Dem
Has “better”	Party	Party	DK	adv.
leaders	%	%	%	
March 2007	44	29	27=100	+15
Sept 2006	34	38	28=100	-4
Feb 2006	37	41	22=100	-4
<b>Has “stronger”</b>				
<b>leaders</b>				
March 2007	41	36	23=100	+5
Sept 2006	30	43	27=100	-13
April 2006	26	53	21=100	-27
<b>Can better manage</b>				
<b>the government</b>				
March 2007	47	31	22=100	+16
Oct 2006	44	34	22=100	+10
April 2006	39	35	26=100	+4
Oct 2005	41	35	24=100	+6
July 2004	40	37	23=100	+3
<b>Is more honest</b>				
<b>and ethical</b>				
March 2007	43	25	32=100	+18
Oct 2006	41	27	32=100	+14
April 2006	36	28	36=100	+8
Oct 2005	40	30	30=100	+10
July 2004	37	34	29=100	+3
<b>Can bring</b>				
<b>needed change</b>				
March 2007	52	26	22=100	+26
Oct 2006	48	28	24=100	+20
April 2006	47	32	21=100	+15
Oct 2005	48	32	20=100	+16
July 2004	46	35	19=100	+11
<b>Concerned about</b>				
<b>people like me</b>				
March 2007	55	26	19=100	+29
Oct 2006	55	27	18=100	+28
April 2006	52	28	20=100	+24
Oct 2005	52	30	18=100	+22
July 2004	50	30	20=100	+20
<b>More influenced</b>				
<b>by lobbyists</b>				
March 2007	30	40	30=100	-10
Oct 2006	27	41	32=100	-14
April 2006	28	45	27=100	-17

29% say the Republican Party does. In the buildup to the 2006 midterm, Republicans had a slim edge on this measure.

These relative advantages reflect negative feelings about the Republican Party as much as positive feelings about the Democrats. As shown in Pew's recent report "Political Landscape More Favorable to Democrats," the favorability ratings of the Democratic Party have not improved, despite steep losses in Republican Party identification and a decided shift in values over the past few years. It is views of the Republican Party that have changed dramatically in a negative direction.

In addition, on several important traits, the Democratic Party's lead is comparable to the Republican Party's advantage in April 1995. For example, at that time the GOP led by 49%-30% as the party better able to manage the federal government. That is on par with the Democratic Party's current 16-point advantage. Similarly, in April 1995 51% said that the Republican Party could bring about needed change (52% currently say the Democratic Party).

While the Republicans maintained a narrow edge on effective management of the government into the late 1990s, their advantage in perceptions of being better able to bring about needed change was short-lived; by July 1996, 46% said the Democratic Party could bring about needed changes, compared with 39% who named the Republican Party.

## Bush Today vs. Clinton in '95

While there are differences in how Americans view today's Democratic leaders compared with the Republican leadership in 1995, the bigger gap is in views of the president. Despite his party's losses in the 1994 midterm, Bill Clinton received a 47% job approval rating in the spring of 1995. A 41% plurality at the time said he was handling relations with the new GOP leaders "about right" and 27% wanted him to challenge Gingrich and his colleagues more than he currently was.

Today, George W. Bush's job approval lingers at 33%, and just 27% say Bush is handling relations with the Democratic leaders "about right." Instead, a 43% plurality would like to see him go along with the Democratic leaders more than he currently does.

Public Wants Compromise from the White House		
	Apr 1995	Mar 2007
<b>The president should...</b>	%	%
Go along with other party more	25	43
Challenge other party more	27	18
Is handling situation about right	41	27
None/Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100
<b>Bush/Clinton job approval</b>		
Approve	47	33
Disapprove	43	58
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100

## Problems with Military Medical Care

In the wake of well-publicized problems with military medical care, the public is harshly critical of the government's performance in providing care for soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Just 26% rate the government's performance as excellent (4%) or good (22%), while 65% say it is either only fair (33%) or poor (32%).

Ratings of the government's handling of medical care for returning soldiers is divided along partisan lines, with Republicans expressing a less negative opinion than Democrats. Even so, a plurality of Republicans (47%) say the government has done only a fair or poor job in providing medical care to U.S. soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Roughly three-quarters of Democrats (76%) and 68% of independents take a negative view of the government's performance in this area.

Walter Reed Fallout - Government Gets Low Marks				
<b><i>Government's job in caring for troops</i></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>
	%	%	%	%
Excellent	4	5	4	4
Good	22	38	14	20
Only fair	33	31	33	36
Poor	32	16	43	32
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Walter Reed problems unusual?</i></b>				
Common problem	57	43	69	58
Unusual incidents	18	33	13	15
Don't know	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>27</u>
	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Who's most to blame for problems?*</i></b>				
Hospital officials	35	55	24	36
Top military leaders	10	9	9	12
Bush administration	23	4	35	22
Congress	12	20	8	12
All/multiple	11	4	14	11
Other/don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
* Asked of those who have heard a lot/little about Walter Reed problems.				



Regarding the scope of the military's medical care shortcomings, 57% think the incidents at Walter Reed represent a common problem with the quality of care given to returning soldiers; just 18% say these problems are "unusual." The belief that the problems go beyond the incidents at Walter Reed is much more widespread among Democrats and independents than among Republicans. Still, 43% of Republicans say the Walter Reed incidents represent a common problem with military medical care, compared with 33% who think the problems there were an aberration.

As might be expected, there is greater disagreement over who bears the greatest blame for the troubles at Walter Reed. Most Republicans (55%) say the blame largely rests with the hospital officials themselves, while a sizable minority (20%) blames Congress. A plurality of independents (36%) also believes that Walter Reed hospital officials are mostly to blame.

By contrast, 35% of Democrats say the Bush administration is mostly to blame for the problems at Walter Reed, compared with 24% who blame the hospital officials. Notably, just 10% of the public – including relatively small numbers of independents (12%), Democrats (9%) and Republicans (9%) – believe that most of the responsibility for the poor medical care at Walter Reed rests with top military officials.

## Supporting the Troops

The public not only is highly critical of how the government is doing in caring for returning troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. More broadly, most Americans (72%) say the U.S. government does not give enough support to the soldiers who have served in the two wars. Just 21% believe that the government gives adequate support to the troops. By comparison, a narrow majority (51%) believes the American people give enough support to the returning soldiers, while 44% view the public's support as inadequate.

There is a widespread belief that the government does not do enough for soldiers who return from Iraq and Afghanistan. Still, nearly three times as many conservative Republicans as liberal Democrats believe that the government generally does give enough support to these troops (35% vs. 12%).

There also are sharply contrasting views about whether the American people give enough support to the returning soldiers. A majority of all Democrats (55%) – including 63% of liberal Democrats – say that the public gives enough support to those who have fought in Iraq and

Who Supports Returning Soldiers?			
	<i>Gives enough support to troops</i>		
	US government	American people	<i>Diff</i>
	%	%	
Total	21	51	+30
Conservative Rep	35	42	+7
Mod/Lib Rep	26	46	+20
Independent	23	54	+31
Cons/Mod Dem	15	53	+38
Liberal Dem	12	63	+51

Afghanistan. But fewer than half of Republicans agree (44%). Just 42% of conservative Republicans think that the American people give enough support to the returning troops while a majority (54%) says they do not.

## Veterans' Views

People who have served in the military bring a unique perspective to the problems at Walter Reed, as well as to broader issues of whether the government and the public are doing enough for returning soldiers. For the most part, however, veterans' opinions about these issues are not dramatically different from those of non-veterans. But veterans are much more attuned to the Walter Reed reports than are non-veterans. Fully 60% of male veterans have heard a lot about this story, compared with just 37% of men who are not veterans.

But male veterans do not apportion blame for the problems at Walter Reed any differently than do male non-veterans. And male veterans' broader evaluations of the government's performance in caring for soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan also are similar to those of men who are not veterans.

### Vets More Engaged by Walter Reed, But Opinions Are Similar

	Male vet %	Male non-vet %
<i>Heard 'a lot' about Walter Reed problems</i>	60	37
<i>Who is most to blame?*</i>		
Hospital officials	28	23
Bush administration	17	16
Congress	17	12
Top military leaders	9	6
<i>Government's job in caring for troops</i>		
Good/excellent	28	28
Only fair/poor	66	61
<i>Does enough for returning soldiers:</i>		
US government	24	27
American people	52	51

\* Asked of those who have heard a lot/little about Walter Reed problems.

## 'The Military' vs. 'Military Leaders'

More than three-quarters of Americans (77%) say they have a favorable opinion of the military, while 17% express unfavorable opinions. Views of the military today are a bit less positive than surveys over the past several years. In January, 84% expressed a favorable opinion of the military, while 11% were unfavorable.

Nonetheless, significantly more people say they have a favorable opinion of 'the military' than say the same about 'military leaders.' About two-thirds (65%) have a positive opinion of military leaders, compared with 23% who have a negative opinion. In addition, just 17% say they have a *very* favorable view of military leaders, which is less than

### 'The Military' Is More Highly Regarded Than 'Military Leaders'

	<i>Favorable opinion of...</i>		
	Military	Military leaders	Diff
	%	%	
Total	77	65	-12
Men	83	69	-14
Women	73	62	-11
College grad	85	71	-14
Some college	76	65	-11
High school or less	75	63	-12
Republican	90	84	-6
Democrat	69	55	-14
Independent	79	63	-16
Male veteran	88	64	-24
Male non-veteran	80	70	-10

half the number expressing a very favorable opinion of the military (43%).

In most major demographic groups, fewer people express positive opinions of military leaders than of the military. Among political groups, independents and Democrats have much lower regard for military leaders than for the military. By contrast, 84% of Republicans say they have a favorable opinion of military leaders, which is only modestly lower than their view of the military generally (90%). And among conservative Republicans, identical and overwhelming majorities express positive opinions of the military and military leaders (93% each).

### The Democrats and 2008

Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are the frontrunners for the Democratic nomination among Democrats and Democratic-leaning voters. More than a third (35%) say they would like to see Senator Clinton get the party's nomination, and about a quarter (26%) want to see Obama win.

This survey was in the field when John and Elizabeth Edwards announced that Mrs. Edwards' cancer had recurred – a story that drew considerable press attention. John Edwards is the favored candidate of 16% of Democrats and Democratic leaners. Al Gore also received press coverage during the field period (March 21-25) as a result of his March 21 appearance on Capitol Hill to discuss global warming. He stands at 12% among Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters.

2008 Presidential Candidates			
<i>Among Democrats and Dem-leaners</i>	%	<i>Among Republicans and Rep-leaners</i>	%
Hillary Clinton	35	Rudy Giuliani	33
Barack Obama	26	John McCain	23
John Edwards	16	Mitt Romney	8
Al Gore	12	Newt Gingrich	7
Joe Biden	1	Tommy Thompson	3
Bill Richardson	1	Jim Gilmore	3
Chris Dodd	*	Sam Brownback	2
Dennis Kucinich	*	Mike Huckabee	1
		Duncan Hunter	1
Other	0	Other	2
None	3	None	5
Don't know	<u>6</u>	Don't know	<u>12</u>
	100		100
Number of cases	614		529
Based on registered voters. Respondents asked who they would like to see nominated from a list of announced or likely candidates.			

Party activists and supporters have closely scrutinized the positions that Clinton and Obama have taken on the war in Iraq, but there are only modest differences in the Iraq views of supporters of each candidate. The vast majority of Democrats (and Democratic leaners) who favor Clinton and Obama say they want to see their representative vote for a bill that would call for an August 2008 deadline for removing all U.S. troops from Iraq.

Obama's supporters are somewhat more likely to favor bringing the troops home "as soon as possible" (78%) than are backers of Senator Clinton (70%). However, those who favor Obama are no more supportive of an immediate troop withdrawal – most favor bringing the troops home gradually over the next year or two.

Yet there are differences between Democrats and Democratic leaners who support Clinton and those who favor Obama – notably, in age, ideology, and gender. A greater share of Obama's support comes from younger Democrats and Democratic leaners. More than a quarter of Obama supporters (27%) are below the age of 30, and 65% are below age 50; this compares with 17% of Clinton supporters who are under age 30 and 50% who are younger than 50. Obama also receives a larger share of his support from liberal Democrats than Clinton does. Roughly four-in-ten of Obama's Democratic supporters (39%) describe themselves as liberals, compared with 25% of Clinton supporters.

As previous Pew surveys have shown, Clinton has strong appeal among women. Nearly two-thirds of Clinton supporters (64%) are female Democrats and women who lean Democratic. Comparatively, a smaller share of Obama's support – though still a majority (56%) -- comes from women.

Comparing Democratic Supporters of Clinton and Obama		
	<i>Dems &amp; Dem-leaners who favor...</i>	
	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Obama</u>
<b>Views on Iraq</b>	%	%
Keep troops in Iraq	27	18
Bring troops home	70	78
Home immediately	27	23
Home gradually	41	55
Other/Don't know	3	4
	100	100
<i>Congressional vote For Aug 2008 deadline</i>		
Vote for	78	83
Vote against	16	12
Don't know	6	5
	100	100
<b>Who they are...</b>		
Female	64	56
Male	36	44
White	63	62
Black	26	33
Other/Mixed	11	3
18-29	17	27
30-49	33	38
50-64	27	24
65+	23	11
Conservative	28	12
Moderate	43	48
Liberal	25	39
Number of cases	192	160
Based on registered voters.		

## The Republicans and 2008

Rudy Giuliani has a 33% to 23% edge over John McCain among Republicans and Republican-leaning voters looking ahead to the 2008 GOP primaries, while no other candidate is in double-digits.

Despite McCain's strong stance in support of increasing the number of troops in Iraq, his supporters are no more committed to expanding the number of U.S. troops than are supporters of Giuliani. About the same number in both camps are of the view that more troops are needed in Iraq (46% among Giuliani backers, 44% among McCain backers), and similar majorities want their representatives to vote against legislation calling for the removal of troops by August of 2008.

In other ways as well, Republicans and Republican leaners who back McCain and Giuliani have similar profiles. Both camps are predominantly conservative, with somewhat similar numbers of white evangelical Protestants. Both candidates also receive comparable levels of support among younger and older voters.

### Ideology of the GOP Field

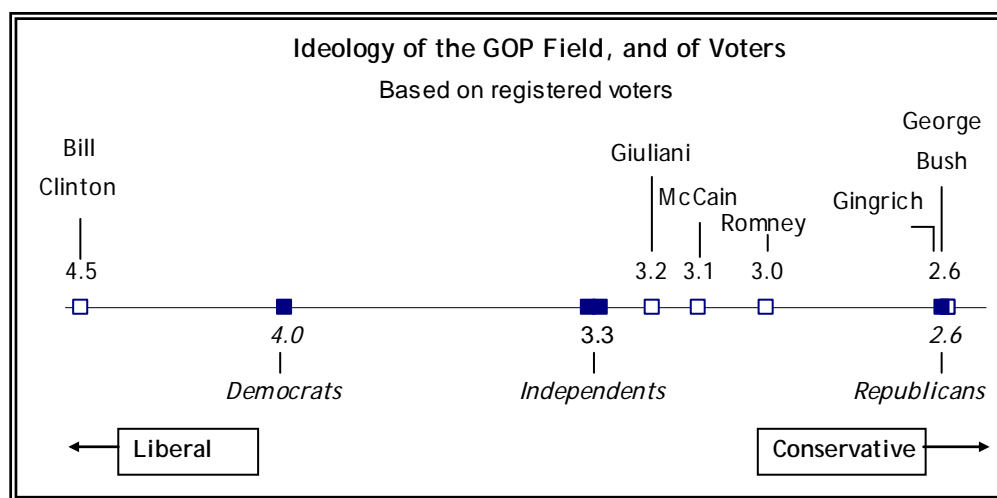
The frontrunners for the GOP nomination are considered to be significantly more liberal than the typical Republican voter. Asked to rate each candidate's ideology on a scale from one to six, where one represents a very conservative position and six very liberal, Rudy Giuliani and John McCain score nearly the same (an average rating of 3.2 and 3.1, respectively). This is slightly to the right of both the midpoint of the scale (3.5) and of where voters nationwide rate their own ideology (3.4). However, the average self-placement among Republican voters is at 2.6 on this scale – considerably further to the right of both leading candidates.

#### Comparing Republican Supporters of Giuliani and McCain

	<i>Reps &amp; Rep-leaners who favor...</i>	
	<u>Giuliani</u>	<u>McCain</u>
	%	%
<b>Views on Iraq</b>		
Keep troops in Iraq	84	72
More troops needed	46	44
Enough there now	24	19
Bring troops home	15	23
Other/Don't know	1	5
	100	100
<b>Congressional vote For Aug 2008 deadline</b>		
Vote for	32	33
Vote against	62	57
Don't know	6	10
	100	100
<b>Who they are...</b>		
Male	51	55
Female	49	45
18-29	16	11
30-49	40	43
50-64	29	27
65+	15	19
Protestant	60	67
White evangelical	30	37
White mainline	26	21
Catholic	29	24
White non-Hispanic	23	21
Secular	7	7
Conservative	61	58
Moderate	33	38
Liberal	6	4
Number of cases	174	120

Based on registered voters.

By this measure, Newt Gingrich and George W. Bush are squarely in line with the ideological position of the partisan base. Both are rated at 2.6 on this ideological scale by voters nationwide, which is exactly where Republican voters, on average, place themselves. The candidates' ideological ratings are nearly identical among Republicans, Democrats and independents. However, former president Bill Clinton, who was included to provide a greater range of options on the survey, is viewed as more liberal by Republicans than by Democrats. Clinton is generally seen as liberal (an average rating of 4.5), but more so by Republicans (4.8) than Democrats (4.3). (The ideology of Democratic candidates will be tested on a future poll.)



Even when the analysis is limited to the views of Republicans and Republican-leaners, there is a gap between how these voters think of themselves ideologically and how they view the leading GOP presidential candidates. Slightly more than half (52%) of Republican-oriented voters place themselves at or near the conservative end of the spectrum, but most place Giuliani, McCain and Romney near the middle of the scale. Giuliani stands out as the least “conservative” of the candidates – just one-in-four Republican-oriented voters rate Giuliani as conservative, compared with 34% for Romney and McCain.

In terms of overall ideology, McCain’s image has not changed substantially among Republican voters since his first run for the presidency in 2000. In January of that year, when McCain was challenging George W. Bush for the party’s nomination, 58% of Republicans placed him near the center of the ideological spectrum, while 31% saw him as conservative. These figures are largely unchanged

**Republicans and Rep-leaners  
Rate the Field, and Themselves**

	Conserv (1,2) %	Mod (3,4) %	Liberal (5,6) %
Newt Gingrich	56	32	12=100
George W. Bush	54	36	10=100
January 2000	43	44	13=100
Yourself	52	38	10=100
January 2000	45	43	12=100
John McCain	34	51	15=100
January 2000	31	58	11=100
Mitt Romney	34	51	15=100
Rudy Giuliani	25	59	16=100

Percentages for each based on registered voters who could give a rating.

today, with a 51% majority rating McCain's ideology as a "3" or "4" on the six-point ideological scale, and 34% placing him at the more conservative positions.

### **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 1,503 adults, 18 years of age or older, from March 21-25, 2007. 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=753) and Form 2 (N=750) 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 seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MARCH 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**March 21-25, 2007**  
**N=1503**

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

	<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
March, 2007	33	58	9=100	November, 2003	50	40	10=100
February, 2007	33	56	11=100	October, 2003	50	42	8=100
Mid-January, 2007	33	59	8=100	September, 2003	55	36	9=100
Early January, 2007	33	57	10=100	Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100
December, 2006	32	57	11=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
Mid-November, 2006	32	58	10=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
Early October, 2006	37	53	10=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
September, 2006	37	53	10=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	July, 2001	51	32	17=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100



From what you've seen and read so far,

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
March, 2007	37	42	21=100
February, 2007 <sup>1</sup>	41	36	23=100
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27=100
Early October, 2006	35	53	12=100
June, 2006	32	50	18=100
March, 2006	34	46	20=100
January, 2006	34	48	18=100
Early November, 2005	36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 2001	49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100
April, 1995 <i>Republican leaders</i>	44	43	13=100

### NO QUESTION 3

Q.4 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2008?  
**[READ]**

		<u>Feb</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>2006</u>
24	A lot	24	23
36	Some	34	36
20	Not much	22	20
18	None at all	18	20
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. - DO NOT READ)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

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<sup>1</sup> In February 2007 and earlier, the question asked about "the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing."

**ROTATE Q.5/5a AND Q.6/6a**

Q.5 I'm going to read you the names of some possible DEMOCRATIC presidential candidates. Who would you most like to see nominated as the Democratic Party's candidate for president in 2008? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE. ACCEPT VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE IF OFFERED BEFORE FULL LIST IS READ. IF 98 'DON'T KNOW' PROBE ONCE: Is there anyone you are leaning toward as of today?]**

**IF ANSWERED (1-96 IN Q.5) ASK:**

Q.5a And who would be your SECOND choice? **[READ REMAINING NAMES IF NECESSARY]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1246]:**

<u>Total</u>	<i>Choice</i>		
	<u>1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup></u>	
39	24	16	Hillary Clinton
38	23	15	Barack Obama
28	16	13	John Edwards
24	10	13	Al Gore
5	2	2	Joe Biden
2	1	1	Chris Dodd
2	*	1	Dennis Kucinich
6	3	3	Bill Richardson
1	*	*	Other (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	14	20	None of them/Will vote in Republican primary (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	6	14	Don't know/Haven't thought about it (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	100 <sup>2</sup>		

**ASK ALL:**

Q.6 I'm going to read you the names of some possible REPUBLICAN presidential candidates. Who would you most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for president in 2008? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE. ACCEPT VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE IF OFFERED BEFORE FULL LIST IS READ. IF 98 'DON'T KNOW' PROBE ONCE: Is there anyone you are leaning toward as of today?]**

**IF ANSWERED (1-96 IN Q.6) ASK:**

Q.6a And who would be your SECOND choice? **[READ REMAINING NAMES IF NECESSARY]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1246]:**

<u>Total</u>	<i>Choice</i>		
	<u>1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup></u>	
43	28	15	Rudy Giuliani
40	25	15	John McCain
11	5	6	Newt Gingrich
9	5	5	Mitt Romney
4	2	3	Tommy Thompson
3	1	2	Mike Huckabee
3	1	1	Duncan Hunter
2	1	1	Sam Brownback
2	2	1	Jim Gilmore
2	2	*	Other (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	16	26	None of them/Will vote in Democratic primary (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	11	22	Don't know/Haven't thought about it (VOL. DO NOT READ)
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	100 <sup>3</sup>		

<sup>2</sup> Includes "None of them/Don't Know/Refused" responses for first and second choice responses.

<sup>3</sup> Includes "None of them/Don't Know/Refused" responses for first and second choice responses.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.7 Now thinking about some groups and organizations ... Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** 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>	<u>Heard of</u>	<u>Rate/Ref.</u>
<b>ITEMS a AND b HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE</b>									
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=753]:</b>									
c.F1	The military	77	43	34	17	6	11	0	6=100
	Early January, 2007	84	47	37	11	3	8	*	5=100
	Late October, 2005	82	44	38	12	4	8	0	6=100
	Late March, 2005	87	49	38	9	3	6	*	4=100
	June, 2004	85	48	37	10	3	7	*	5=100
Newsweek:	May 16-17, 2002	93	59	34	5	2	3	--	2=100
Newsweek:	September 13-14, 2001	94	58	36	4	2	2	--	2=100
	July, 2001	81	29	52	11	4	7	*	8=100
	January, 2001	82	32	50	12	3	9	0	6=100
	August, 1999	89	30	59	10	2	8	*	1=100
	June, 1999	83	36	47	13	2	11	0	4=100
	Early September, 1998	86	29	57	10	3	7	0	4=100
	October, 1997	78	22	56	18	5	13	0	4=100
	May, 1997	80	23	57	16	5	11	0	4=100
	February, 1996	82	33	49	16	4	12	*	2=100
	July, 1994	87	30	57	11	3	8	*	2=100
	May, 1993	85	32	53	10	2	8	0	5=100
	March, 1991	94	60	34	4	2	2	0	2=100
	May, 1990	73	18	55	21	6	15	*	6=100
	January, 1988	77	20	57	17	3	14	*	6=100
	April, 1987	80	17	63	16	4	12	0	4=100
	January, 1987	73	19	54	16	5	11	*	11=100
	July, 1986	85	32	53	10	3	7	0	5=100
	June, 1985	77	24	53	18	5	13	*	5=100
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:</b>									
d.F2	Military leaders	65	17	48	23	7	16	0	12=100

**QUESTION 8 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking again about Congress...

Q.9 Are you happy or unhappy that the Democratic Party won control of Congress?

		----- <i>Republican Party</i> -----					
		Nov	Dec	Nov	April	March	Dec
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2002<sup>4</sup></u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
54	Happy	60	48	47	52	55	57
32	Unhappy	24	34	32	36	31	31
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.10 What do you think is the most important thing that the new Congress has done during its first few months?  
**(RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER)**

**22 ISSUES (NET)**

- 16 Ending the war/Bringing the troops home
- 2 Raising minimum wage
- 1 Health care
- 4 Other issues
- 4 Oversight/Accountability
- 4 Opposing Bush/Republicans
- 1 Creating problems
- 4 Other
- 16 Nothing/Not much
- 53 Don't know/Refused

<sup>4</sup>

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

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=753]:**

Q.11F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nancy Pelosi is handling her job as Speaker of the House?

		<b>----Newt Gingrich----</b>		
		April	March	Feb
		<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>
48	Approve	43	44	38
22	Disapprove	42	37	29
<u>30</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>33</u>
100		100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:**

Q.12F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Harry Reid is handling his job as Senate Majority Leader?

		<b>--Bob Dole--</b>	
		April	Feb
		<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>
32	Approve	59	45
22	Disapprove	25	19
<u>46</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>16</u>	<u>36</u>
100		100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.13 Generally, do you think Democratic leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

		Mid-Jan	Mid-Nov	<b>----- Republicans -----</b>			
		2007	2006	Sept 1995 <sup>5</sup>	April 1995 <sup>6</sup>	Feb 1995	Dec 1994
54	Successful	57	59	54	63	61	62
32	Unsuccessful	25	22	31	28	20	24
4	Mixed/get some passed (VOL.)	5	6	n/a	3	5	4
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.14 In dealing with Congress, do you think President Bush...[READ]

		<b>Clinton and Republicans</b>		
		March	Aug	April
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>
43	Should go along with the Democrats more often?	30	26	25
18	Should challenge the Democrats more often?	23	27	27
27	Is handling the situation about right?	41	38	41
3	Neither (VOL. DO NOT READ)	2	2	2
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100

<sup>5</sup> In September, 1995 the question asked "In general, would you say the Republican leaders in Congress have been successful or unsuccessful so far this year in getting their programs passed into law?"

<sup>6</sup> From April, 1995 to December, 1994 the question asked "Generally, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?"

Q.15 From what you have seen or heard about events in the new Congress, in general, do you think the Democrats are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, or not?

		--- <i>Republicans</i> ---	
		April	<i>Newsweek</i>
		<u>1995</u>	<u>Jan 1995</u>
40	Yes, keeping promises	59	41
38	No, not keeping promises	30	30
<u>22</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>11</u>	<u>29</u>
100		100	100

Q.16 On balance, do you think the new Congress has accomplished more than you expected in its first 100 days, less than you expected, or about what you expected?

		April
		<u>1995</u>
5	More than expected	18
19	Less than expected	12
64	About what was expected	65
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>
100		100

Q.17 Do you think Congress is spending too much, too little, or the right amount of time conducting investigations of possible government wrongdoing?

31	Too much
35	Too little
25	Right amount
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.18 How would you rate the job Congress has done so far in dealing with Iraq? **[READ]**

3	Excellent
19	Good
38	Only fair
35	Poor
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL. DO NOT READ</b> )
100	

Q.19 How much influence, if any, do you think Congress should have over the direction of U.S. policy in Iraq? **[READ]**

38	A lot
40	Some
9	Not much
9	None at all
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL. DO NOT READ</b> )
100	

Q.20 Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress are going too far or not far enough in challenging George W. Bush's policies in Iraq, or are they handling this about right?

23 Too far  
40 Not far enough  
30 About right  
7 Don't know/Refused  
100

# QUESTION 21 ALREADY RELEASED

## ASK ALL:

Thinking more generally about the political parties...

Q.22 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders (First,) which party do you think **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE)?**

		Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
		Party	Party	equally		
a.	Can better manage the federal government	31	47	3	8	11=100
	Early October, 2006	34	44	3	9	10=100
	April, 2006 <sup>7</sup>	35	39	3	15	8=100
	January, 2006	34	40	4	12	10=100
	Early October, 2005	35	41	3	13	8=100
	July, 2004	37	40	4	9	10=100
	Early September, 1998	37	32	8	12	11=100
	August, 1997	39	33	4	16	8=100
	July, 1996	45	32	4	12	7=100
	April, 1995	49	30	3	13	5=100
	July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5=100
	May, 1993	36	32	2	17	13=100
	July, 1992	30	36	1	23	10=100
	May, 1990	28	20	12	31	9=100
	May, 1988	33	30	10	17	10=100
	January, 1988	30	28	12	20	10=100
	May, 1987	24	25	13	28	10=100
b.	Governs in a more honest and ethical way	25	43	4	18	10=100
	Early October, 2006	27	41	4	18	10=100
	April, 2006 <sup>8</sup>	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

<sup>7</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the question was worded: "Which party do you think is better described by the phrase.... Able to manage the federal government well."

<sup>8</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the question was worded: "Which party do you think is better described by the phrase... Governs in an honest and ethical way."

## Q.22 CONTINUED...

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>		
August, 1997	28	33	5	26	8=100
July, 1996	38	37	2	18	5=100
April, 1995	35	36	4	19	6=100
July, 1994	32	35	6	21	6=100
c. Can bring about the kind of changes the country needs	26	52	4	9	9=100
Early October, 2006	28	48	4	10	10=100
April, 2006	32	47	2	12	7=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	4	9	7=100
July, 2004	35	46	3	7	9=100
Early September, 1998	34	40	7	8	11=100
March, 1998	32	45	7	8	8=100
August, 1997	38	40	4	11	7=100
July, 1996	39	46	2	7	6=100
April, 1995	51	34	4	7	4=100
July, 1994	39	42	4	10	5=100
May, 1993	30	49	2	10	9=100
July, 1992	24	47	2	16	11=100
May, 1990	27	31	13	18	11=100
May, 1988	27	43	9	11	10=100
January, 1988	28	37	14	11	10=100
May, 1987	26	36	14	14	10=100
d. Is more concerned with the needs of people like me	26	55	2	7	10=100
Early October, 2006	27	55	3	8	7=100
April, 2006 <sup>9</sup>	28	52	3	10	7=100
Early October, 2005	30	52	5	7	6=100
July, 2004	30	50	5	8	7=100
Early September, 1998	31	46	5	9	9=100
March, 1998	30	51	4	8	7=100
August, 1997	31	49	3	10	7=100
July, 1996	35	50	2	7	6=100
April, 1995	39	49	2	7	3=100
July, 1994	35	49	4	8	4=100
May, 1990	21	42	12	18	7=100
May, 1988	23	51	8	11	7=100
January, 1988	22	47	11	13	7=100
e. Is more influenced by lobbyists and special interests	40	30	15	1	14=100
Early October, 2006	41	27	16	2	14=100
April, 2006	45	28	14	2	11=100

<sup>9</sup>

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



**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=753]:**

Q.23F1 In your view, does the [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] or the [NEXT ITEM] have better political leaders?

		Sept <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>
29	Republican Party	38	38	41
44	Democratic Party	34	40	37
8	Both equally (VOL.)	7	4	5
7	Neither (VOL.)	9	9	8
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=750]:**

Q.24F2 In your view, does the [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] or the [NEXT ITEM] have stronger political leaders?

		Sept <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>
36	Republican Party	43	53
41	Democratic Party	30	26
6	Both equally (VOL.)	7	4
5	Neither (VOL.)	5	8
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>15</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100

**QUESTIONS 25 AND 26 ALREADY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 27 THROUGH 34**

**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.35 If "6" represents someone who is very liberal in politics and "1" represents someone who is very conservative, where on this scale of 6 to 1 would you rate the following people and yourself? First, where would you place (INSERT ITEMS a AND b ROTATED FIRST; RANDOMIZE ITEMS c THRU f; ALWAYS ASK ITEM g "Yourself" LAST)? [IF ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW"/"NEVER HEARD OF" DO NOT PROBE.]

		<i>Based on Those Who Could Rate</i>						Never heard of/ DK/Refused (N) <sup>10</sup>	
		-- Conservative --			--- Liberal ---				
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>		
a.	George W. Bush	32	24	18	10	6	10=100	9%	(1373)
	Early September, 2004	28	27	18	10	8	9=100	8%	
	Mid-March, 2004	26	24	20	13	7	9=100	8%	
	Mid-January, 2004	28	28	16	10	8	10=100	10%	
	January, 2000	13	26	30	14	10	7=100	16%	
	May, 1999	15	24	27	15	10	9=100	15%	
b.	Bill Clinton	6	5	16	18	24	31=100	8%	(1388)
	January, 2000	10	6	14	18	23	29=100	12%	
	September, 1996	7	4	18	27	20	24=100	5%	

<sup>10</sup>

Numbers listed are the number of respondents who could rate each candidate or themselves and on which all percentages are based, except for the percentage of "Never heard of/Don't know/Refused" which is based on total.

# **Q.35 CONTINUED...**

		<i>Based on Those Who Could Rate</i>							
		-- Conservative --			---- Liberal ----			Never heard of/	(N)
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>	
c.	John McCain	9	21	36	17	9	8=100	21%	(1228)
	January, 2000	9	23	37	18	8	5=100	39%	
d.	Rudy Giuliani	10	16	37	20	9	8=100	18%	(1261)
e.	Newt Gingrich	31	22	21	11	8	7=100	25%	(1162)
f.	Mitt Romney	15	23	33	14	7	8=100	54%	(736)
g.	Yourself	12	16	27	20	14	11=100	6%	(1407)
	June, 2005	11	14	31	20	15	9=100	7%	
	Early September, 2004	15	13	30	17	12	13=100	8%	
	Mid-March, 2004	12	12	30	20	14	12=100	6%	
	Mid-January, 2004	15	15	27	18	14	11=100	5%	
	January, 2000	15	16	31	16	10	12=100	8%	
	May, 1999	13	12	30	20	11	14=100	7%	
	September, 1996	17	10	31	18	13	11=100	6%	
	September, 1988	14	15	29	20	12	10=100	6%	
	Newsweek: 1984	16	9	31	19	12	13=100	6%	

## **QUESTIONS 36 THROUGH 44 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

## **QUESTIONS 45 THROUGH 54 ALREADY RELEASED**

### **ASK ALL:**

#### **ROTATE Q.55 AND Q.56**

Q.55 Do you think the American people give enough support to soldiers who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, or not?

51 Yes, the American people give enough support  
 44 No, the American people do not give enough support  
5 Don't know/Refused  
 100

Q.56 Do you think the U.S. government gives enough support to soldiers who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, or not?

21 Yes, the U.S. government gives enough support  
 72 No, the U.S. government does not give enough support  
7 Don't know/Refused  
 100

Q.57 How would you rate the job the government has been doing providing medical care to U.S. soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan? **[READ]**

4	Excellent
22	Good
33	Only fair, OR
32	Poor
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL. DO NOT READ]</b>
100	

Q.58 How much, if anything, have you heard about problems with outpatient care for injured military personnel at the Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington D.C.? **[READ]**

41	A lot
34	A little
23	Nothing at all
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL. DO NOT READ]</b>
100	

**IF HEARD IN Q.58 (1 OR 2), ASK [N=1245]:**

Q.59 From what you've heard or read, who do you think is most to blame for these problems... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

35	Officials at Walter Reed Hospital
10	Top military leaders
23	The Bush administration, OR
12	Congress
2	Other <b>[VOL. DO NOT READ]</b>
11	All/Multiple <b>[VOL. DO NOT READ]</b>
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL. DO NOT READ]</b>
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.60 In general, do you think that the incidents at Walter Reed Army Hospital were unusual, or do you think they represent a common problem with the quality of care given to returning soldiers?

18	Incidents were unusual
57	Represent a common problem
<u>25</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK ALL:**

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

**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?

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	DK/ Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>			
March, 2007	25	36	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
February, 2007	25	34	34	4	*	3=100	10	18
Mid-January, 2007	24	35	34	3	*	4=100	12	18
Early-January, 2007	23	31	39	4	*	3=100	12	18
December, 2006	25	35	32	5	*	3=100	11	17
Mid-November, 2006	25	36	32	4	*	3=100	9	18
Late October, 2006	26	32	33	5	1	3=100	10	16
Early October, 2006	27	34	33	3	*	3=100	12	15
Early September, 2006	30	34	30	3	*	3=100	10	14
August, 2006	30	33	30	4	*	3=100	12	14
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100	11	14
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100	11	16
April, 2006	29	32	30	5	*	4=100	10	14
Early April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100	11	15
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100	11	16
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100	10	15

**Yearly Totals**

2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8=100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.5	33.1	30.0	4.0	.4	3.0=100	11.8	13.6
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5=100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7=100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7=100	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6=100	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1=100	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0=100	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9=100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4=100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3=100	12.3	13.8

				No Preference/ Other/DK		Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>				
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100		12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4=100		14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100		14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8=100		11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100		13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5=100		14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8=100		12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100				
1987	26	35	39=100				