

**NEWS** Release

1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20036 Tel (202) 419-4350 Fax (202) 419-4399

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# Bush Approval Falls to 29% -- Lowest Ever THOMPSON DEMONSTRATES BROAD POTENTIAL APPEAL

#### Also inside...

- Romney's visibility increases
- Gore gains potential support
- Republicans more engaged by campaign
- Abortion a second-tier issue for GOPers

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut, Director Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors Pew Research Center for the People & the Press 202/419-4350 http://www.people-press.org

# Bush Approval Falls to 29% -- Lowest Ever THOMPSON DEMONSTRATES BROAD POTENTIAL APPEAL

Former Sen. Fred Thompson has broad potential appeal among Republican voters even before his expected entrance into the presidential race. Thompson is not nearly as well known as former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani or the other leading GOP candidates. But 37% of the Republican and Republican-leaning voters who have heard of Thompson say there is a "good chance" they will support him. This is equal to the level of support Giuliani receives from GOP voters who have heard of him, and reflects far more enthusiasm than any of the other Republican candidates garner.

Mike Huckabee

Chuck Hagel

Democratic voters continue to express somewhat more enthusiasm for their party's top-tier candidates than do Republicans, and Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama continue to draw the greatest potential support. The enthusiasm advantage Clinton enjoyed in February has all but disappeared, as the percentage of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters saying there is a good chance they would support her has dipped from 52% to 44%.

Support for Obama is unchanged from February; 40% of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters say there is a good chance they would vote for him. Former Vice President Al Gore has gained ground in recent months – 34% say there is a good chance they would vote for Gore today, up from 27% in February.

The latest national survey by the

	The Appea	al of tl	ne Field	to Repu	blicans*			
I	Chance would vote for							
ı	(Based on those who have heard)							
l	Good Some No Hear							
l	<u>C</u>	<u>hance</u>	<u>chance</u>	<u>chance</u>	DK	<u>of</u>		
l		%	%	%	%	%		
l	Rudy Giuliani	37	39	20	4=100	95		
l	Fred Thompson	37	29	24	10=100	58		
l	Mitt Romney	24	36	32	8=100	72		
l	John McCain	20	45	28	7=100	94		
l	Newt Gingrich	20	29	46	5=100	93		
١	Tommy Thompson	10	24	54	12=100	51		
١	Sam Brownback	10	15	56	19=100	40		

\*Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning registered voters.

24

47

24=100

18=100

48

43

5

#### The Appeal of the Field to Democrats\*\*

Chanca would wate for

Chance would vote for					
(B	ased on t	hose who	have hea	ard)	
	Good	Some	No		Heard
	<u>chance</u>	<u>chance</u>	<u>chance</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>of</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
Hillary Clinton	44	36	17	3=100	99
Barack Obama	40	36	19	5=100	85
Al Gore	34	35	26	5=100	98
John Edwards	24	44	24	8=100	86
Bill Richardson	14	22	49	15=100	47
Dennis Kucinich	12	10	71	7=100	35
Joe Biden	11	30	47	12=100	53
Chris Dodd	8	22	55	15=100	38

\*\*Based on Democrats and Democratic-leaning registered voters.

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted May 30-June 3 among 1,503 adults, finds that overall voter engagement in the presidential campaign remains somewhat limited, despite intense press coverage of the race. Just 33% of all voters say they have given a lot of

thought to the presidential candidates, up only modestly from December (27%). However, Republican voters have caught up with the Democrats in campaign engagement, after trailing in previous surveys.

Many voters are dimly aware of even heavily covered aspects of the candidates' positions and backgrounds. For instance, just 37% of all registered voters could correctly identify Giuliani as the leading Republican candidate who favors a woman's right to choose when it comes to abortion. Among Republican and Republican-leaning voters, just 43% correctly identified Giuliani.

The survey finds a wide partisan gap in the campaign issues that Republican and Democratic voters view as very important. Health care, the war in Iraq, and the economy are the leading issues for Democrats; roughly eight-in-ten Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters cite these issues as very important to their vote. By contrast, just 56% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters say that health care will be very important in their vote, while 64% cite the war in Iraq.

Far more Republican than Democratic voters say that terrorism and immigration will be very important issues in their voting decisions. Roughly six-in-ten GOP voters (63%) say immigration will be very important, compared with fewer than half of Democratic voters (47%).

Abortion is not a top-tier issue among either Democratic or Republican voters. Only about four-in-ten Republicans and Republican leaning voters (43%), and slightly fewer Democrats (38%), say that abortion will be very important to their voting decisions. Among Republicans, abortion rates about as important as the environment.

The survey finds that President Bush's job approval rating has declined significantly since April. Bush's approval rating stands at 29% – the lowest of his presidency – down from 35% two months ago. Bush has lost substantial support from his Republican base. Only about two-thirds of

Bush Below 30%, GOP Support Declines						
Total Rep Dem Ind 2007 trend % % % %						
June	29	65	6	27		
April	35	77	12	28		
March	33	73	9	29		
February	33	71	9	28		
January	33	77	10	28		
Previous Jur	ies					
2006	36	77	11	29		
2005	42	85	14	32		
2004	48	87	17	44		
2003	62	92	40	56		
2002	70	95	53	66		

Republicans (65%) approve of Bush's job performance, which also is the lowest mark of his

presidency. As recently as April, 77% of Republicans approved of the way Bush was handling his job as president.

# The Republican Field

Giuliani, McCain and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich remain the most visible GOP candidates among Republican and Republican-leaning voters. But the visibility gap between them and other GOP candidates has narrowed since February. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, in particular, has become much better known. Fully 72% say they have heard of Romney, up from 46% in February. Former Govs. Tommy Thompson and Mike Huckabee, and Sens. Sam Brownback and Chuck Hagel also are better known among Republican and Republican-leaning voters than they were a few months ago.

Overall, solid majorities of Republican voters (and independents who lean Republican) say there is a good chance or some chance they would vote for four declared or possible Republican candidates, based on those who have heard of the

Romney, Other GOP Candidates More Visible							
Chance would vote for (Based on those who have heard)							
,	Good	Some	No	,	Heard		
<u>c</u>	:h <u>ance</u>	chance of	ch <u>ance</u>	e <u>DK</u>	of		
	%	%	%	%			
Rudy Giuliani	37	39	20	4=100	95		
February	36	43	15	<i>6=100</i>	95		
Fred Thompson	37	29	24	10=100	58		
February	n/a			• • • • • •			
Mitt Romney	24	36	32	8=100	72		
February	15	39	31	<i>15=100</i>	46		
John McCain	20	45	28	7=100	94		
February	23	43	26	,	94		
Newt Gingrich	20	29	46	5=100	93		
February	16	29	49	6=100	90		
Tommy Thompso	n10	24	54	12=100	51		
February	10	28	42	20=100	34		
Sam Brownback	10	15	56	19=100	40		
February	6	22	51	21=100	32		
Mike Huckabee	5	24	48	23=100	48		
February	4	27	41	<i>28=100</i>	32		
Chuck Hagel	4	16	62	18=100	43		
February	3	22	<i>57</i>	18=100	<i>32</i>		
Based on Republication voters.	ans and	l Republic	an lea	ning registe	red		

candidates. Giuliani continues to draw the most support among those who say there is a good *or* some chance they would vote for a candidate: 76% say there is a good or some chance they would vote for Giuliani, compared with 66% for Fred Thompson, 65% for McCain, and 60% for Romney.

Giuliani and McCain draw about the same levels of potential support as they did in February. Romney has gained modestly since then; currently 24% of Republican and Republican-leading voters say there is a good chance they would vote for him, compared with 15% in February. Overall 60% say there is a good or some chance they would support the former Massachusetts governor, although a sizable minority (32%) continues to say there is no chance they would vote for him.

About half of Republican and Republican-leaning voters (49%) say there is at least some chance they could support Gingrich; notably, as many GOP voters say there is a good chance they would vote for the former House speaker as say that about McCain (20% each). But the proportion of Republican voters who say there is no chance they would vote for Gingrich is much higher (46% vs. 28% for McCain).

### Thompson's Appeal

Conservative Republican voters are substantially more enthusiastic about Thompson, Romney and Gingrich than are more moderate or liberal members of the party. Thompson is the most appealing candidate in the field to conservative Republicans – 43% say there is a good chance they would support him. By comparison, just 28% of moderate and liberal Republicans say there is a good chance they would vote for Thompson, placing him 10 points behind Giuliani among this group of voters.

Conservative Republicans								
Enthusiastic about Fred Thompson								
Good chance would support*								
Giu- Thomp- Rom- Mc- Ging-								
liani son ney Cain rich								
	%	%	%	%	%			
All Republicans*	37	37	24	20	20			
Ideology								
Conservative	36	43	28	20	26			
Moderate/Lib	38	28	15	21	10			
* Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters who have heard of each candidate.								

Neither Giuliani nor McCain's support divides along ideological lines. About the same share of conservative (36%) as moderate and liberal (38%) Republicans say there is a good chance they would vote for Giuliani. McCain's appeal is more limited – only about one-in-five Republicans, regardless of ideology, express the same level of support for his candidacy.

Among Republican voters, 43% are aware of Giuliani's position, and there is little difference between conservatives and moderate or liberal Republicans. Moreover, just 44% of Republican voters who cite abortion as a very important issue can identify Giuliani as the candidate who supports a woman's right to choose. However, nearly twice as many Republican and Republican-leaning voters who rate abortion as very important say there is no chance they would vote for Giuliani, compared with those who view abortion as less important (27% vs. 15%).

Few Know Giuliani's Abortion Stance						
Which leading GOP candidate is pro-choice?						
All registered voters	<u>Giuliani</u> % s 37	Other % 15	Don't <u>know</u> % 48=100			
Among Republicans & Rep leaners	43	15	42=100			
Conservative Mod/Liberal	45 40	17 12	38=100 48=100			
Abortion is Very important Less important	44 43	16 15	40=100 42=100			

#### Issues and the GOP Field

As evidenced by the low awareness of Giuliani's position on abortion, issues play only a modest role in candidate evaluations at this stage of the campaign. Yet there are relevant links between voters' issue priorities and their candidate preferences. For example, despite the fact that most Republicans who prioritize abortion don't know Giuliani's position, he does garner somewhat less interest from these voters than from Republicans who rate this a lower priority.

The roughly three-quarters of Republicans who rate terrorism as a very important campaign issue express substantially more enthusiasm for many of the candidates – more say there is a "good chance" they would vote for Giuliani, Thompson, Romney and Gingrich than among Republicans who see terrorism as less important.

Republicans who rate immigration as a very important issue express more serious consideration of Gingrich, Romney and Thompson than do those who see it as less important.

Issues and the GOP Field								
Good chance would support*								
	Giu- <sup>-</sup>	Thomp-	Rom-	Mc-	Ging-			
	<u>liani</u>	son	ney	<u>Cain</u>	<u>rich</u>			
	%	%	%	%	%			
All Republicans*	37	37	24	20	20			
Abortion is								
Very important	32	39	25	20	22			
Less important	41	38	23	20	17			
Terrorism is								
Very important	40	41	28	21	22			
Less important	26	26	8	16	10			
Immigration is								
Very important	36	41	28	19	26			
Less important	37	31	18	22	9			
	37	31	10	22	,			
Taxes are	4.0	40	0.1	40	0.0			
Very important	40	42	26	19	22			
Less important	31	30	21	22	16			
Iraq is								
Very important	39	38	27	20	21			
Less important	33	36	19	21	18			
* Call autoica abau	. 414		f Damidal		_1			
* Cell entries show Republican-leaning								

good chance they would vote for a candidate among those who have heard of that candidate. For example, among Republicans who say abortion is a very important campaign issue and have heard of Giuliani, 32% say there is a "good chance" they would vote for him

#### The Democratic Field

While several lesser known Republican candidates have gained in familiarity over the past few months, this has not been the case among Democrats. Sen. Joe Biden, Gov. Bill Richardson, Rep. Dennis Kucinich and Sen. Chris Dodd are not much more visible among Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters than they were in February.

Among declared possible Democratic candidates. four draw substantial Eight-in-ten support. Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters say there is a good or some chance they would vote for Sen. Hillary Clinton, while 76% say they would consider voting for Sen. Barack Obama. Somewhat fewer Democratic voters say they would consider voting for former Vice President Al Gore

The Democratic Field: Little Change							
	Sin	ce Febi	ruary				
Chance would vote for							
(Based on those who have heard)							
	Good	Some	. No	5.7	Heard		
<u>C</u>		chance of			<u>of</u>		
Hillory Clinton	% 44	% 36	% 17	% 3=100	% 99		
Hillary Clinton February	52	30 31	13	3=100 4=100	99 99		
Barack Obama	40	36	19	5=100	85		
February	40	37	19	4=100	80		
Al Gore	34	35	26	5=100	98		
February	27	37	<i>30</i>	<i>6=100</i>	98		
John Edwards	24	44	24	8=100	86		
February	26	47	21	<i>6=100</i>	84		
Bill Richardson	14	22	49	15=100	47		
February	11	28	47	14=100	42		
Dennis Kucinich	12	10	71	7=100	35		
February	9	23	56	12=100	32		
Joe Biden	11	30	47	12=100	53		
February	10	34	46	10=100	<i>52</i>		
Chris Dodd	8	22	55	15=100	38		
February	4	31	50	<i>15=100</i>	<i>35</i>		
Based on Democrat	s and [	Democrati	ic lean	ing register	ed voters.		

(69% good/some chance), or former Sen. John Edwards (68%).

While comparable percentages of Democratic voters say there is at least *some* chance they would vote for Gore and Edwards, more say there is a *good* chance they would vote for Gore (34% vs. 24% for Edwards). In February, about the same numbers said there was a good chance that they would vote for each man (27% Gore, 26% Edwards).

Reflecting their more general engagement in the early stages of the 2008 campaign, liberal Democrats are more enthusiastic about many of the leading candidates than their more conservative and moderate counterparts. About half (51%) of the liberal Democrats who have heard of Hillary Clinton say there is a good chance they would support her, compared with 41% among moderate and conservative Democrats who have heard of her. The gap in enthusiasm is at least as large for Obama, 51% of liberals who have heard of him say there is a good

#### Liberal Democrats More Enthusiastic about Most Candidates

	Good chance				
	ı	would รเ	ipport	*	
	Clin-			Ed-	
	ton	<u>Obama</u>	Gore	wards	
	%	%	%	%	
All Democrats*	44	40	34	24	
Ideology					
Liberal	51	51	43	27	
Moderate/Cons	41	35	30	23	

<sup>\*</sup> Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters who have heard of each candidate.

chance they will support him, compared with 35% of moderate and conservative Democrats.

#### Issues and the Democratic Field

As with Republican voters, issue priorities among Democrats have, at best, a modest link with candidate enthusiasm at this stage of the campaign. For example, the priority Democratic voters place on such issues as abortion and immigration has no significant link with how they view the candidates.

Health care is rated as a very important campaign issue by 82% of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters, and 47% of these voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Hillary Clinton. By comparison, 35% of the minority of Democrats who rate this as a less important issue say there is a good chance they would vote for Clinton. The emphasis a Democratic voter places on health care is unrelated to views of the other major candidates.

Similarly, Democratic voters who rate terrorism as a very important campaign issue express substantially more interest in Clinton's candidacy (49% say there is a good chance they would support her) than do Democratic voters who place less emphasis on terrorism (36%).

While eight-in-ten Democrats say Iraq will be a very important issue in deciding who to vote for, there are no clear signs that those who say this view the candidates all that differently at this point. Democratic voters who prioritize the environment are more enthusiastic about Al Gore's candidacy (38% good chance) than those who do not (26% good chance). These environmentally-oriented Democratic voters also express more interest in Clinton and Edwards as well.

Issues and the Democratic Field							
Good chance would support*							
	Clin- Ed- <u>ton</u> <u>Obama</u> <u>Gore</u> <u>wards</u> % % % %						
All Democrats*	44	40	34	24			
Health care is Very important Less important	47 35	40 40	36 29	25 21			
Terrorism is Very important Less important	49 36	40 41	33 38	21 30			
Iraq is Very important Less important	45 44	42 36	36 28	24 24			
Environment is Very important Less important	48 38	41 38	38 26	28 16			
Abortion is Very important Less important	48 43	36 43	34 35	24 24			
Immigration is Very important Less important	47 43	37 44	36 34	24 25			
Taxes are Very important Less important	48 40	37 45	31 39	21 28			

<sup>\*</sup> Cell entries show the percent of Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters who say there is a good chance they would vote for a candidate among those who have heard of that candidate. For example, among Democrats who say health care is a very important campaign issue and have heard of Clinton, 47% say there is a "good chance" they would vote for her.

# **Bush Job Approval**

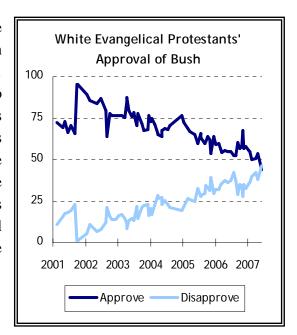
For the first time in Pew Research Center polling, disapproval of President Bush's job performance outnumbers approval by more than two-to-one (61% disapprove, 29% approve). Bush's job approval is down six points from April, and is three points below the previous low measured in November and December of 2006.

The decline in Bush's support is most notable among Republicans. Just under two-thirds (65%) of Republicans approve of the President's performance today, down from 77% in April. This drop is apparent

How Republicans View Bush							
June	<u>Total</u> %	Cons- erv %	Mod/ <u>Lib</u> %				
Approve Disapprove Don't know	65 27 <u>8</u> 100	74 17 <u>9</u> 100	52 43 <u>5</u> 100				
<i>April</i> Approve	77	86	63				
Disapprove Don't know	19 <u>4</u> 100	12 <u>2</u> 100	29 <u>8</u> 100				
Change	-12	-12	-11				

among both the conservative and moderate wings of the party. The proportion of conservative Republicans giving a positive rating declined 12 points to an all-time low of 74%. The proportion of moderate and liberal Republicans giving a positive rating fell 11 points (to 52%), also an all-time low.

White evangelical Protestants have been one of the groups consistently backing George W. Bush throughout his presidency. In the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when the president's overall job approval spiked to 86% nationwide it was as high as 95% among white evangelicals. As recently as December 2004, more than three-quarters of white gave president positive evangelicals the performance review. But the current survey finds just 44% of white evangelicals expressing approval of the president's job performance; roughly the same number (46%) say they disapprove.



# Republicans More Engaged in Campaign

Overall, a third of voters say they are giving "a lot" of thought to the 2008 presidential candidates, compared with 29% in April. Since December, more Democrats than Republicans said they have given a lot of thought to the candidates. In April, 37% of Democrats said they were giving a great deal of thought to the candidates, compared with 27% of Republicans.

However, in the current survey identical proportions of Democrats and Republicans (33% each) say they are giving a lot of thought to the candidates. Independents also are more engaged by the campaign; 32% say they are giving a great deal of thought to the candidates, up from 25% in April.

Modest Candidate Attention Party Gap Disappears					
A lot Some Not much None at all Don't know	<u>Dec</u> % 27 37 20	to the Feb % 28 36	28 40 17 13 2	% 29 37 18	<u>Jun</u> % 33 35 18
A lot of though among Republicans	23		27	27	33
Democrats Independents	34 26	34 25	31 25		33 32
D-R gap	+11	+11	+4	+10	0
Based on registered voters.					

# **Profiles of Candidate Support**

Fred Thompson attracts strong potential support from men and older people, as well as from conservatives. Α profile Republican and Republican-leaning voters who say there is a good chance they will vote for Thompson shows that 70% are male and 65% are age 50 or older. Nearly threequarters of those who say there is a good chance they would vote for Thompson self-described are conservatives (74%).

Giuliani's potential base of support is younger than Thompson's and less heavily male. More than half of Republican and Republicanleaning voters who would strongly consider voting for Giuliani are under age 50 (53%). Roughly six-inten are conservatives (61%).

Profile of GOP Supporters						
	AII		od Chanc			
	Rep <u>RVs</u> * %	Giu- <u>liani</u> %	Thomp- son %	Rom- ney %	Mc- <u>Cain</u> %	Ging- <u>rich</u> %
Male	54	58	70	59	57	61
Female	<u>46</u> 100	<u>42</u> 100	30 100	41 100	<u>43</u> 100	39 100
18-49 50+	49 51	53 46	35 65	39 61	51 49	41 58
College grad Some college H.S. or less	35 29 36	33 26 41	43 27 30	40 32 28	45 23 30	39 26 35
Household income \$75,000 or more \$30-\$74,999 Under \$30,000	38 33 16	43 28 16	40 33 11	52 24 12	40 28 22	45 19 16
Conservative Moderate Liberal	62 31 6	61 31 6	74 23 1	77 22 0	61 33 5	82 14 3
Church attendance	40	00	F4			
Weekly or more	49 31	39 38	51 25	64 20	51 37	57 33
Monthly/Yearly Seldom/Never	20	23	25 24	16	12	9
Number of cases	496	161	115	87	97	95
	*Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Note, individuals may say "good chance" to more than one candidate.					

Notably, just 39% of possible Giuliani supporters attend church at least once a week; by contrast, half or more of those who say there is a good chance they would vote for the other leading GOP candidates attend church at least weekly.

Among those who say there is a good chance they would vote for Romney, 64% attend church at least weekly. In addition, roughly half of Republican and Republican-leaning voters who say there is a good chance they would vote for Romney have annual household incomes of at least \$75,000 a year (52%).

A profile of McCain's potential support shows that 61% are self-described conservatives – a smaller proportion than for any other leading GOP candidate except for Giuliani. Like Giuliani, McCain draws about half of his potential support from those under age 50 (51%).

# **Profile of Democratic Support**

Among leading Democratic candidates, Clinton draws disproportionate support from those with a high school education or less. More than half of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters who say there is a good chance they would vote for Clinton have a high school education or less (54%).

By contrast, a relatively large proportion of Obama's potential support comes from college graduates (40% vs. 26% for Clinton). In addition, roughly a quarter of Democratic voters who say there is a good chance they would vote for Obama are African American (28% vs. 20% for Clinton).

Nearly nine-in-ten Democratic voters who say there is a good chance they would vote for Edwards are white (87%) – the highest proportion for any leading Democratic candidate. In addition, more than half of Edwards' potential supporters are age 50 and older (55%).

Profile of Democratic Supporters							
Male	AII Dem <u>RVs</u> * % 41	Clin- ton % 41	"Good -would v Obama % 41				
Female	<u>59</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>44</u>		
	100	100	100	100	100		
18-49	52	51	57	52	44		
50+	47	48	43	48	55		
White	71	70	62	74	87		
Black	20	20	28	17	10		
Hispanic	11	13	9	12	10		
College grad	29	26	40	33	37		
Some college	24	21	26	21	22		
H.S. or less	47	54	34	46	40		
Household income \$75,000 or more \$30-\$74,999 Under \$30,000	24 38 28	22 39 29	31 33 28	24 37 29	30 37 24		
Conservative	20	20	14	14	15		
Moderate	44	39	39	41	44		
Liberal	32	36	44	41	37		
Church attendance Weekly or more Monthly/Yearly Seldom/Never	36 36 28	31 40 28	34 32 34	27 37 36	31 34 33		
Number of cases	614	269	218	207	141		

<sup>\*</sup>Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters. Note, individuals may say "good chance" to more than one candidate.

#### 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 May 30-June 3, 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.

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:

Andrew Kohut, Director

Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research

Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors

Carolyn Funk, Richard Wike and Kim Parker, Senior Researchers

Nilanthi Samaranayake, Survey and Data Manager

April Clark, Juliana Menasce Horowitz, Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf and Daniel Cox, Research Associates

James Albrittain, Executive Assistant

Nikki Graf, Intern

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### PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS JUNE 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE

May 30 - June 3, 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]

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

ASK ALL:
Q.10 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2008?
[READ]

		Aprıl	March	Feb	Dec
		2007	<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
29	A lot	26	24	24	23
34	Some	34	36	34	36
20	Not much	21	20	22	20
16	None at all	17	18	18	20
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL DO NOT READ)	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.11 Next, I'm going to read you a list of some people who have been in the news lately. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. First, (INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS), have you heard of (REPEAT NAME) or not?

(**IF HAVE HEARD, ASK:**) How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (**INSERT NAME**) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2008 — is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance? Have you heard of (**NEXT NAME**) or not?

(**IF HAVE HEARD, ASK:**) Is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance that you would vote for (**NEXT NAME**) for president?

### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1247]:**

				Based	on Those	Who Have	e Heard	
	Have	Have not	DK/	Good	Some	No	DK/	
	<u>Heard</u>	<b>Heard</b>	Ref.	Chance	Chance	Chance	Ref.	<u>(N)</u>
John McCain	89	10		16	37	40	7 = 100	(1139)
February, 2007		12					8=100	
August, 1999	40	59	1 = 100	17	38	37	8=100	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	43	56	1 = 100	15	40	36	9=100	
May, 1999	36	63	1 = 100	16	37	39	8=100	
February, 1999	32	67	1=100	16	42	35	7=100	
Rudy Giuliani	90	9	1=100	22	33	39	6=100	(1149)
February, 2007	90	9	1=100	22	38	33	7=100	
Newt Gingrich	87	12	1=100	11	19	63	7=100	(1120)
February, 2007	85	14	1=100	7	20	66	7=100	
Mitt Romney	62	37	1=100	14	26	52	8=100	(862)
February, 2007	43	56	1=100	8	28	50	14=100	
Fred Thompson	51	47	2=100	21	26	43	10=100	(724)
Chuck Hagel	37	62	1=100	4	16	61	19=100	(504)
February, 2007	31	68	1=100	4	22	57	17=100	
ON FORM 1 REGISTERED V	OTERS	SONLY [	N=624]:					
Mike Huckabee	42	57	1=100	8	16	57	19=100	(284)
February, 2007	31	68	1=100	4	20	52	24=100	
O ON FORM 2 REGISTERED V	OTERS	ONLY [	N=623]:					
Tommy Thompson	44	54	2 = 100	6	21	59	14=100	(302)
February, 2007	33	67	*=100	6	23	53	18=100	
	February, 2007 August, 1999 June, 1999 May, 1999 February, 1999  Rudy Giuliani February, 2007  Newt Gingrich February, 2007  Mitt Romney February, 2007  Fred Thompson  Chuck Hagel February, 2007  ON FORM 1 REGISTERED V Mike Huckabee February, 2007  ON FORM 2 REGISTERED V Tommy Thompson	John McCain 89 February, 2007 87 August, 1999 40 June, 1999 43 May, 1999 36 February, 1999 32  Rudy Giuliani 90 February, 2007 90  Newt Gingrich 87 February, 2007 85  Mitt Romney 62 February, 2007 43  Fred Thompson 51  Chuck Hagel 37 February, 2007 31  ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS Mike Huckabee 42 February, 2007 31  ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS Tommy Thompson 44	John McCain	Heard   Heard   Ref.   Sept.   Sept.	Have   Have   not   DK/   Good   Heard   Heard   Ref.   Chance   Septiatory   10   1=100   16   16   15   12   1=100   15   15   15   15   15   15   15	Have   Have   Tok   Good   Some   Heard   Heard   Ref.   Chance   Chance   Chance   Some   Rebruary, 2007   87   12   1=100   15   39     August, 1999   40   59   1=100   15   40     May, 1999   36   63   1=100   16   37     February, 1999   36   63   1=100   16   37     February, 1999   36   63   1=100   16   37     February, 1999   32   67   1=100   16   37     February, 1999   32   67   1=100   16   42     Rudy Giuliani   90   9   1=100   22   33     February, 2007   90   9   1=100   22   38     Newt Gingrich   87   12   1=100   11   19     February, 2007   85   14   1=100   7   20     Mitt Romney   62   37   1=100   14   26     February, 2007   43   56   1=100   8   28     Fred Thompson   51   47   2=100   4   16     February, 2007   31   68   1=100   4   22     ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [N=624]:     Mike Huckabee   42   57   1=100   4   20     ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [N=623]:     Tommy Thompson   44   54   2=100   6   21     ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [N=623]:	Have   Have   not   DK   Good   Some   No   Heard   Heard   Heard   Ref.   Chance   Chance	John McCain 89 10 1=100 16 37 40 7=100 February, 2007 87 12 1=100 15 39 38 8=100 August, 1999 40 59 1=100 17 38 37 8=100 June, 1999 43 56 1=100 16 37 39 8=100 May, 1999 36 63 1=100 16 37 39 8=100 February, 1999 32 67 1=100 16 37 39 8=100 February, 1999 32 67 1=100 16 42 35 7=100  Rudy Giuliani 90 9 1=100 22 33 39 6=100 February, 2007 90 9 1=100 22 38 33 7=100  Newt Gingrich 87 12 1=100 11 19 63 7=100 February, 2007 85 14 1=100 7 20 66 7=100  Mitt Romney 62 37 1=100 11 26 52 8=100 February, 2007 43 56 1=100 8 28 50 14=100  Fred Thompson 51 47 2=100 21 26 43 10=100  Chuck Hagel 37 62 1=100 4 16 61 19=100 February, 2007 31 68 1=100 4 16 61 19=100 February, 2007 31 68 1=100 4 22 57 17=100  ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS UNLY [N=624]:  Mike Huckabee 42 57 1=100 8 16 57 19=100 February, 2007 31 68 1=100 4 20 52 24=100  ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS UNLY [N=624]:  Tommy Thompson 44 54 2=100 6 21 59 14=100

# Q.11 CONTINUED...

Q.II C	CONTINUED				D 1	m m	7 77 3	, , ,	
		Have Heard	Have not Heard	DK/ Ref.	Based on Good Chance	Some Chance	No	DK/ Ref.	(N)
i.F2	Sam Brownback	36	61	3=100	7	10	62	21=100	$(\overline{246})$
	February, 2007	30	69	1=100	3	16	62	19=100	` ,
BASEI	D ON ALL REGISTERED VOT	ERS [N:	=1247]:						
j.	Hillary Clinton	99	*	1=100	28	25	43	4=100	(1236)
	February, 2007	98	1	1=100	31	24	41	4=100	
k.	Barack Obama	85	14	1=100	27	33	34	6=100	(1105)
	February, 2007	78	21	1=100	27	36	30	7=100	
1.	John Edwards	87	12	1=100	16	35	42	7=100	(1122)
	February, 2007	84	15	1 = 100	15	39	39	7=100	
	September, 2003	46	53	1 = 100	10	33	49	8=100	
	August, 2003	45	54	1 = 100	8	33	47	12=100	
	Early July, 2003	39	60	1=100	7	29	53	11=100	
m.	Al Gore	98	1	1=100	21	25	49	5=100	(1230)
	February, 2007	97	2	1=100	16	26	53	5=100	
	July, 2003	99	1	*=100	23	24	51	2 = 100	
	August, 1999	98	2	*=100	25	28	44	3=100	
	June, 1999	98	2	*=100	22	32	43	3=100	
	May, 1999	97	3	0 = 100	20	27	49	4=100	
	February, 1999	98	2	0=100	22	30	45	3=100	
n.	Bill Richardson	48	50	2=100	12	22	51	15=100	(662)
	February, 2007	41	58	1=100	8	28	46	19=100	
BASEI	D ON FORM 1 REGISTERED V	OTERS	ONLY [	N=624]:					
o.F1	Joe Biden	58	41	1 = 100	7	23	59	11=100	(404)
	February, 2007	54	45	1=100	6	27	55	12=100	
p.F1	Chris Dodd	41	58	1=100	5	18	62	15=100	(288)
	February, 2007	34	65	1=100	3	25	53	19=100	
BASEI	D ON FORM 2 REGISTERED V	OTERS	ONLY [	N=623]:					
q.F2	Dennis Kucinich	37	61		8	8	74	10=100	(261)
	February, 2007	31	68	1=100	6	19	59	16=100	
	September, 2003	21	78	1=100	6	22	61	11=100	
	August, 2003	23	77	*=100	8	20	57	15=100	
	Early July, 2003	18	82	*=100	7	20	60	13=100	
BASEI	D ON ALL REGISTERED VOT	_	_						
r.	Michael Bloomberg	65	33	2 = 100	9	23	56	12=100	(847)

Q.12 In making your decision about who to vote for, will the issue of [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE] be very important, somewhat important, or not too important, or not at all important? ... How important will the issue of [NEXT ITEM] be? [INTERVIEWER: PLEASE RE-READ RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY THREE OR FOUR ITEMS]

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1247]:**

		Very	Somewhat			Don't Know/
			<u>Important</u>		<b>Important</b>	
a.	The economy	74	22	2	1	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	78	18	3	1	*=100
	August, 2004	76	22	1	1	*=100
b.	Iraq	73	20	3	3	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	74	20	3	2	1=100
	August, 2004	70	24	3	2	1=100
c.	Terrorism	69	24	4	2	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	77	17	3	2	1=100
	August, 2004	75	19	3	2	1=100
d.	Abortion	40	30	13	14	3=100
	Mid-October, 2004	47	27	12	11	3=100
	August, 2004	45	25	13	14	3=100
e.	Immigration	54	34	7	3	2=100
f.	Energy	61	32	4	2	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	54	37	6	2	1=100
	August, 2004	53	40	6	*	1=100
g.	Taxes	62	29	7	2	*=100
C	Mid-October, 2004	59	31	7	2	1=100
h.	Health care	71	23	4	2	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	73	22	4	1	*=100
	August, 2004	72	21	5	2	*=100
i.	The environment	55	36	6	3	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	53	37	7	2	1=100
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*=100

Q.13 Do you happen to know which of the leading Republican presidential candidates favors a woman's right to choose when it comes to abortion? Is it [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1247]:**

- 37 Rudy Giuliani
- 8 John McCain [OR]
- 5 Mitt Romney
- 1 None favor a woman's right to choose (**VOL. DO NOT READ**)
- 1 All/More than one favor a woman's right to choose (**VOL. DO NOT READ**)
- 48 Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)

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.)	(VOL.)			
				No	Other	DK/	Lean	Lean
	Republican	<b>Democrat</b>	Independent	<u>Preference</u>	<b>Party</b>	Ref	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
June, 2007	25	34	32	6	*	3=100	10	17
April, 2007	25	28	40	5	*	2=100	13	17
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	5 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, 200	06 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
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100	• •	2.0 100	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
				Ja Duafanana	-/		Logue	I
	Danublican	Domooret		No Preference	<b>3</b> /		Lean	Lean
	Republican 27.7	<u>Democrat</u>	Independent	Other/DK			<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
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					

# IF ANSWERED 1 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYSTR Do you consider yourself a STRONG Republican or NOT a strong Republican?

		Not Strong/
	Strong	Don't Know
June, 2007	13	12=25%
April, 2007	14	11=25%
January, 2007	12	11=23%
Mid-November, 2006	14	11=25%
Late-October, 2006	14	12=26%
Early-October, 2006	15	12=27%
September, 2006	17	13=30%
December, 2005	16	13=29%
December, 2004	18	13=31%
July, 2004	17	12=29%
August, 2003	14	13=27%
September, 2000	14	13=27%
Late-September, 1999	10	14=24%
August, 1999	11	14=25%
November, 1997	11	14=25%
October, 1995	11	19=30%
April, 1995	15	15=30%
October, 1994	16	15=31%
July, 1994	13	16=29%
June, 1992	11	17=28%
May, 1990	13	15=28%
February, 1989	15	16=31%
May, 1988	13	15=28%
January, 1988	12	15=27%
May, 1987	11	14=25%

# IF ANSWERED 2 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYSTR Do you consider yourself a STRONG Democrat or NOT a strong Democrat?

		Not Strong/
	Strong	Don't Know
June, 2007	19	15=34%
April, 2007	15	13=28%
January, 2007	17	14=31%
Mid-November, 2006	22	14=36%
Late-October, 2006	18	14=32%
Early-October, 2006	19	15=34%
September, 2006	18	16=34%
December, 2005	20	14=34%
December, 2004	19	15=34%
July, 2004	20	13=33%
August, 2003	15	16=31%
September, 2000	19	15=34%
Late-September, 1999	15	16=31%
August, 1999	15	18=33%
November, 1997	14	18=32%
October, 1995	14	16=30%
April, 1995	14	15=29%
October, 1994	18	14=32%

# PARTYSTR CONTINUED...

		Not Strong/
	Strong	Don't Know
July, 1994	15	18=33%
June, 1992	14	18=32%
May, 1990	16	17=33%
February, 1989	17	21=38%
May, 1988	19	19=38%
January, 1988	19	20=39%
May, 1987	18	19=37%