

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
SEPTEMBER 2006 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
FINAL TOPLINE
September 6-10, 2006
N=1507

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>
September, 2006	37	53	10=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	July, 2001	51	32	17=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100				

Q.2 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? [RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]

		Early Mid-					Mid-							
		May	March	Jan	Nov	May	Jan	July	Jan	Apr	Feb	Mar	May	Feb
		2006	2006	2006	2005	2005	2005	2004	2004	2003	2003	2002	2001	2001
25	War/War in Iraq	18	20	23	29	24	32	25	16	14	34	10 [▲]	--	--
14	Terrorism	5	8	6	6	8	10	8	14	9	16	24	1	*
9	Economy (general)	7	7	11	11	15	12	14	20	28	21	8	7	7
	Energy crisis/Rising gas/heating													
7	prices	14	5	5	4	6	--	2	--	--	1	1	22	4
6	Immigration	10	4	3	2	4	1	1	3	1	--	1	1	2
6	Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	13	10	5	7	6	5	7	5	3	5	4	2	5
4	Health care/costs	4	6	6	5	7	5	5	5	3	2	2	6	7
	Defense issues/Military spending/													
4	National & homeland security	1	4	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	5	1	1
4	Education	2	4	3	1	2	3	4	3	4	1	4	8	11
4	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	3	6	7	4	7	7	8	13	10	6	4	5	6
3	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	1	3	7	4	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3
2	Morality/Ethics/Family values	4	6	4	3	3	5	4	3	4	5	8	6	12
2	U.S. foreign policy/Intl affairs	3	1	3	3	1	1	4	2	--	--	--	2	2
	Inflation/Difference between													
2	wages/costs	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
2	Crime/Gangs/Justice system	1	3	2	--	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	4	8
	Pay more attention to problems													
2	at home	2	--	2	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
1	Drugs/Alcohol	--	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	4	6
1	Using Am. military in foreign countries	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced													
1	budget	2	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	--	1	1	1
15	Other													
1	None	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	*	2
7	Don't know/No answer	5	6	7	6	5	5	6	4	9	4	8	8	7
	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/													
47	INTERNATIONAL	29	34	37	42	36	49	41	37	29	54	39	3	5
23	(NET) ECONOMIC	27	22	26	24	31	24	26	35	41	29	16	40	26

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the way your own representative to the U.S. House in Congress is handling his or her job? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job your own representative in Congress is doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
September, 2006	46	29	25=100
May, 2005	49	23	28=100
September, 1993	54	24	22=100
August, 1993	52	26	22=100
March, 1992	45	37	18=100

Q.4 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or the war on terrorism?

		Early					
		Jan	Oct	Sept	Jan	Aug	Jan
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>
39	Domestic policy	42	50	56	40	29	33
43	War on terrorism	39	33	25	44	43	52
2	Neither (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	*
12	Both (VOL.)	14	13	12	13	22	13
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:

Thinking about what's been in the news lately...

Q.5F1 What subjects or stories in the news have you been following the most closely? **[OPEN END. RECORD UP TO THREE MENTIONS; DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]**

- 26 Iraq war/Troop casualties
- 10 Terrorism - general
- 5 Gas prices/Energy costs/Oil
- 5 Immigration/Border issues
- 4 Israel/Lebanon
- 4 Recent hurricanes and response
- 4 Death of Steve Irwin, the Crocodile Hunter
- 3 Economy - general
- 3 Iran/Nuclear program
- 3 Politics/Upcoming elections
- 2 Weather/Natural disasters (non-hurricane)
- 2 September 11th anniversary
- 2 Bush - general
- 1 Sports
- 1 Secret prisons/Treatment of terrorism suspects
- 1 Crime
- 1 JonBenet Ramsey murder case
- 1 Education
- * Health care
- 7 Other national news
- 5 Other local news
- 4 Other international news
- 27 Nothing/Everything/Don't know

ASK ALL:

Q.6 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month, tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS.] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?”]**

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

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

Q.6 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
March 13-16, 2003 ²	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100
b. News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district	16	32	28	23	1=100
August, 2006	20	29	28	22	1=100
June, 2006	18	30	29	21	2=100
April, 2006	18	28	30	23	1=100
Early November, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	27	46	18	9	*=100
Late October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	28	34	24	13	1=100
Early October, 2002 (<i>RVs</i>)	21	46	22	10	1=100
Early September, 2002	17	29	29	24	1=100
Late October, 1998 (<i>RVs</i>)	26	45	20	9	*=100
Early October, 1998 (<i>RVs</i>)	21	43	24	11	1=100
Early September, 1998	17	32	28	23	*=100
Early August, 1998	13	30	28	28	1=100
June, 1998	9	27	33	30	1=100
April, 1998 ³	16	33	24	27	*=100
November, 1994	18	42	25	15	*=100
Late October, 1994	14	38	31	16	1=100
Early October, 1994	23	34	23	19	1=100
September, 1994	19	34	29	18	*=100
November, 1990	38	34	17	11	*=100
October, 1990	18	32	28	22	*=100
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:					
c.F1 Iran's nuclear research program	23	34	19	23	1=100
August, 2006	24	34	20	20	3=100
June, 2006	21	32	22	22	3=100
April, 2006	26	30	23	20	1=100
March, 2006	24	31	22	22	1=100
d.F1 News about the JonBenet Ramsey murder case	16	26	31	26	1=100

NO ITEM e

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

³ In April 1998, September 1994 and October 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and election campaigns in your state." In November 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and elections in your state."

Q.6 CONTINUED...

		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:						
f.F2	The upcoming fifth anniversary of the September 11 th terrorist attacks September, 2002 ⁴	27 39	35 35	25 18	12 7	1=100 1=100
g.F2	The death of the Crocodile Hunter, Steve Irwin, from a stingray strike	30	36	21	12	1=100
ASK SEPT 7-10 ONLY [N=1159]:						
h.	President Bush's announcement that 14 terrorist suspects, previously held in secret, will be tried in military tribunals	18	32	23	25	2=100

NO QUESTION 7

ASK ALL:

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming November election... Quite a lot, or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	<u>Quite A lot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Some</u>	<u>Only a Little</u>	<u>None/DK/ Refused</u>
September, 2006	45	4	48	3=100
Early November, 2002	52	6	35	7=100
Early October, 2002	45	6	45	4=100
Early September, 2002	36	5	54	5=100
Late October, 1998	49	11	35	5=100
Early October, 1998	42	8	43	7=100
November, 1994	56	7	32	5=100
Late October, 1994	45	7	45	3=100
Early October, 1994	44	2	50	4=100
<i>Gallup: October, 1990</i> ⁵	43	7	46	4=100
<i>Gallup: October, 1982</i>	29	22	37	12=100
<i>Gallup: October, 1978</i>	23	22	39	17=100
<i>Gallup: September, 1978</i>	21	18	44	18=100

⁴ In September 2002 the story was listed as "Coverage of the upcoming anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks."

⁵ Gallup trends based on total respondents.

PRECINCT Have you ever voted in your precinct or election district?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

		Mid- Early				Late			Mid- Early Late			Early Late			
		Nov	Oct	Sept	Aug	Nov	Nov	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Sept	Nov
		2004	2004	2004	2004	2002	2000	2000	2000	2000	1998	1998	1996	1996	1994
92	Yes	82	79	83	88	86	83	81	82	84	86	87	85	85	91
8	No	18	21	17	12	14	17	19	18	16	14	13	15	15	9
*	Don't know/Ref.	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OFTVOTE How often would you say you vote... (READ)

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	Always	Nearly Always	Part of the time	Seldom	Never Vote	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref.
September, 2006	56	28	9	6	1	*	*=100
Early November, 2004	62	21	7	6	3	1	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	63	22	7	5	2	1	*=100
Early November, 2002	52	30	11	6	1	0	1=100
Early October, 2002	50	33	11	4	*	1	1=100
Early September, 2002	59	25	11	4	1	*	*=100
August, 2002	53	32	10	4	1	*	*=100
Early November, 2000	57	26	8	6	2	1	*=100
Late October, 2000	52	30	9	6	1	2	0=100
Mid-October, 2000	54	27	10	6	*	3	*=100
Early October, 2000	51	29	10	6	3	1	*=100
September, 2000	61	21	9	7	2	*	*=100
June, 2000	58	26	10	4	1	1	*=100
Late September, 1999	40	47	9	3	1	*	*=100
Late October, 1998	56	28	10	5	1	*	*=100
Early October, 1998	50	32	11	5	1	1	*=100
Early September, 1998	53	33	9	4	-	1	*=100
June, 1998	49	33	12	5	-	1	0=100
October, 1997	62	26	8	3	1	*	*=100
November, 1996	55	28	8	6	2	1	*=100
October, 1996	52	30	9	5	2	2	*=100
Late September, 1996	52	31	10	4	2	1	*=100
June, 1996	52	33	9	4	1	1	*=100
February, 1996	42	41	11	4	1	1	*=100
October, 1995	53	35	7	4	1	*	*=100
April, 1995	53	34	9	4	*	*	*=100
November, 1994	58	28	8	5	*	1	0=100
Late October, 1994	55	32	10	3	*	*	*=100
July, 1994	52	34	10	4	*	*	*=100
Early October, 1992	54	33	8	4	*	1	*=100
September, 1992	52	33	8	5	1	1	*=100
June, 1992	60	29	7	3	1	*	*=100
May, 1992	50	35	10	4	1	*	*=100
November, 1991	46	41	9	4	*	-	*=100
May, 1990	42	42	11	4	1	*	*=100
Gallup: November, 1988	57	26	10	4	2	1	*=100

OFTVOTE CONTINUED...

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Nearly Always</u>	<u>Part of The time</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never Vote</u>	<u>(VOL.) Other</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref.</u>
October, 1988	51	37	8	3	1	*	*=100
May, 1988	43	41	11	3	2	1	*=100
January, 1988	49	39	9	2	1	*	*=100
May, 1987	43	43	9	3	1	1	*=100

PLANTO1 Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this November?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	<u>Yes, Plan To Vote</u>	<u>No, Don't Plan To</u>	<u>Don't know/Refused</u>
September, 2006	92	5	3=100
November, 2004	97	2	1=100
Mid-October, 2004 ⁶	98	1	1=100
Early October, 2004	98	1	1=100
Early September, 2004	98	1	1=100
<i>September 11-14</i>	97	2	1=100
<i>September 8-10</i>	99	1	*=100
August, 2004	98	2	*=100
June, 2004	96	2	2=100
November, 2002 ^{7*}	90	8	2=100
Early October, 2002*	95	3	2=100
November, 2000	96	3	1=100
Late October, 2000	97	2	1=100
Mid-October, 2000	96	2	2=100
Early October, 2000	97	2	1=100
September, 2000	95	3	2=100
June, 2000	95	2	3=100
Late October, 1998	91	6	3=100
Early October, 1998	92	4	4=100
Early September, 1998	95	2	3=100
Late August, 1998	93	3	4=100
June, 1998	95	3	2=100
November, 1996	96	2	2=100
October, 1996	98	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	98	1	1=100
Early September, 1996	96	2	2=100
July, 1996	95	3	2=100
June, 1996	96	2	2=100
November, 1994	93	5	2=100
October, 1994	95	3	2=100
October, 1992	98	1	1=100
September, 1992	98	1	1=100

⁶ In November and Mid-October 2004 and November 2002, the volunteer category "already voted" was added and is presented in the "Yes, Plan to vote" category.

⁷ In November 2002, November, 2000, Late October 1998, November 1996 and November 1994 the question was worded: "Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this Tuesday, or not?"

PLANTO1 CONTINUED...

	Yes, Plan <u>To Vote</u>	No, Don't <u>Plan To</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
August, 1992	97	1	2=100
June, 1992	97	1	2=100
October, 1988	98	1	1=100

SCALE10 I'd like you to rate your chance of voting in November on a scale of 10 to 1. If 10 represents a person who definitely will vote and 1 represents a person who definitely will not vote, where on this scale of 10 to 1 would you place yourself?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	Definitely will vote										Definitely will not vote
	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 2006	67	9	9	2	2	5	1	1	1	2	1=100
November, 2004 ⁸	87	4	3	1	1	1	*	*	*	2	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	87	4	3	1	1	1	*	*	*	2	1=100
Early November, 2002 ⁹	66	9	9	3	1	4	1	1	1	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	64	10	10	4	3	4	1	*	*	2	2=100
Early November, 2000	80	6	5	2	1	3	*	*	*	3	1=100
Late October, 2000	83	5	5	1	1	2	*	1	1	1	*=100
Mid-October, 2000	80	7	4	3	1	3	1	*	*	1	1=100
Early October, 2000	78	7	5	2	2	2	*	1	1	1	1=100
Late October, 1998	70	6	7	4	1	4	1	1	1	4	1=100
Early October, 1998	64	9	10	4	2	4	1	2	1	2	1=100
November, 1996	77	7	7	2	1	2	*	1	*	2	1=100
October, 1996	77	9	7	2	2	2	*	*	*	1	*=100
Late September, 1996	78	10	6	2	1	1	*	*	*	1	1=100
November, 1994	67	9	8	2	2	4	1	1	1	3	2=100
October, 1994	66	10	9	4	2	4	1	1	*	2	1=100
Gallup: September, 1992	77	5	4	3	2	4	*	1	*	4	*=100
Gallup: November, 1988	77	7	6	2	1	3	*	*	*	2	2=100
Gallup: October, 1988	73	8	7	3	2	3	1	*	*	1	2=100

⁸ In November 2004 and November 2002 the volunteer category "already voted" was added and is presented in the "10 – definitely will vote" category.

⁹ In Early November election surveys, the question asked about "Tuesday's election."

Q.8 If the 2006 elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

IF ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.8, ASK:

Q.8a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
September, 2006	39	50	11=100
August, 2006	41	50	9=100
June, 2006	39	51	10=100
April, 2006	41	51	8=100
February, 2006	41	50	9=100
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8=100
2002 Election			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12=100
Early October, 2002	44	46	10=100
Early September, 2002	44	46	10=100
June, 2002	44	46	10=100
February, 2002	46	45	9=100
Early November, 2001	44	44	12=100
1998 Election			
Late October, 1998	40	47	13=100
Early October, 1998	43	44	13=100
Early September, 1998	45	46	9=100
Late August, 1998	44	45	11=100
Early August, 1998	42	49	9=100
June, 1998	44	46	10=100
March, 1998	40	52	8=100
February, 1998	41	50	9=100
January, 1998	41	51	8=100
August, 1997	45	48	7=100
1994 Election			
November, 1994	45	43	12=100
Late October, 1994	47	44	9=100
Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
September, 1994	48	46	6=100
July, 1994	45	47	8=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.9F1 What will make the biggest difference in how you vote for Congress in your district – national issues, local or state issues, the candidate's political party, or the candidate's character or experience? **[IF MORE THAN ONE, PROBE WITH: Well, which is most important?]**

BASED ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=598]:

	National <u>Issues</u>	State/Local <u>Issues</u>	Political <u>Party</u>	Character/ <u>Experience</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>None</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
September, 2006	29	33	5	27	1	2	3=100
June, 2006	30	26	6	33	2	*	3=100
Early November, 2002	23	38	7	26	2	*	4=100
Early October, 2002	28	35	5	25	2	1	4=100
June, 2002	26	30	5	33	2	1	3=100

Q.9F1 CONTINUED...

	National <u>Issues</u>	State/Local <u>Issues</u>	Political <u>Party</u>	Character/ <u>Experience</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>None</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
Early October, 2000	21	42	9	21	1	1	5=100
July, 2000	18	40	6	32	1	1	2=100
Late October, 1998	20	39	5	27	3	2	4=100
Early October, 1998	23	36	7	28	1	*	5=100
Early September, 1998	22	34	5	33	2	*	4=100
Early August, 1998	20	38	5	31	2	*	4=100
June, 1998	22	37	4	32	1	1	3=100
March, 1998	18	37	6	35	1	1	2=100
November, 1996	23	38	6	25	2	*	6=100
October, 1996	19	45	7	26	1	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	25	38	6	24	2	*	5=100
Early September, 1996	18	42	6	30	1	*	3=100
November, 1994	22	38	5	30	1	*	4=100
Late October, 1994	22	38	3	29	3	1	4=100
Early October, 1994	22	27	5	39	2	1	4=100
CBS/NYT: 10/24-28, 1986	22	25	6	40	1	1	5=100
CBS/NYT: 9/28-10/1, 1986	20	23	9	41	3	*	4=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.10F2 What matters most to you as you think about your vote for Congress this fall? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

BASED ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=593]:

47	National issues OR
36	Local issues
17	Both equally (VOL) [DO NOT READ]
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL) [DO NOT READ]
100	

NO QUESTION 11

ASK ALL:

Q.12 Would you like to see your representative in Congress be re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	(VOL)		Congressperson (VOL)	DK/Ref
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>not running</u>	
September, 2006	53	27	1	19=100
August, 2006	51	30	*	19=100
June, 2006	51	32	1	16=100
April, 2006	57	28	1	14=100
February, 2006	59	28	1	12=100
Mid-September, 2005	57	25	1	17=100
Early October, 2002	58	19	2	21=100
June, 2002	58	23	1	18=100
Early November, 2000	59	16	2	23=100
October, 2000	60	17	1	22=100
July, 1999	66	23	*	11=100
Late October, 1998	64	19	1	16=100

Q.12 CONTINUED...

	(VOL)			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Congressperson <u>not running</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early October, 1998	58	20	2	20=100
Early September, 1998	63	20	1	16=100
March, 1998	63	21	1	15=100
January, 1998	66	23	0	11=100
August, 1997	66	22	0	12=100
Early November, 1996	60	16	3	21=100
October, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
Late September, 1996	55	17	2	26=100
Early September, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
November, 1994	58	25	1	16=100
Late October, 1994	55	30	2	13=100
Early October, 1994	49	29	2	20=100
<i>Gallup</i> : October, 1990	62	22	2	14=100

Q.13 Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	(VOL)		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 2006	35	49	16=100
August, 2006	36	49	15=100
June, 2006	29	57	14=100
April, 2006	34	53	13=100
February, 2006	36	49	15=100
September, 2005	36	48	16=100
Early October, 2002	39	38	23=100
June, 2002	45	37	18=100
October, 2000	40	34	26=100
July, 1999	41	47	12=100
Late October, 1998	41	37	22=100
Early October, 1998	39	39	22=100
Early September, 1998	46	37	17=100
March, 1998	45	41	14=100
January, 1998	44	43	13=100
August, 1997	45	42	13=100
Early September, 1996	43	43	14=100
November, 1994	31	51	18=100
Late October, 1994	31	56	13=100
Early October, 1994	28	56	16=100

Q.14 Thinking about the congressional elections that will be held this November, compared to previous elections, are you more enthusiastic about voting than usual, or less enthusiastic?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

		<i>Gallup</i>			
		June	June	June	Oct
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1994</u>
37	More	38	41	38	34
40	Less	40	33	45	44
20	Same (VOL)	18	23	15	20
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.15 Will the issue of which party controls Congress, the Republicans or the Democrats, be a factor in your vote for Congress this year, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	Yes, will be <u>a factor</u>	No, <u>will not</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 2006	55	41	4=100
June, 2006	58	39	3=100
April, 2006	56	39	5=100
June, 2004	43	51	6=100
Early November, 2002	48	49	3=100
Early October, 2002	42	55	3=100
Early September, 2002	44	51	5=100
June, 2002	47	50	3=100
February, 2002	46	49	5=100
Early October, 2000	46	50	4=100
July, 2000	46	49	5=100
Late October, 1998	46	50	4=100
Early October, 1998	47	49	4=100
Early September, 1998	41	56	3=100
Early August, 1998	44	53	3=100
June, 1998	45	51	4=100

Q.16 Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote FOR George W. Bush, as a vote AGAINST George W. Bush, or isn't George W. Bush much of a factor in your vote?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	Not a <u>factor</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
September, 2006	20	36	40	4=100
August, 2006	17	35	43	5=100
June, 2006	15	38	44	3=100
April, 2006	17	34	46	3=100
February, 2006	18	31	47	4=100
Early November, 2002	29	16	49	6=100
Early October, 2002	30	20	44	6=100
Early September, 2002	29	15	51	5=100
February, 2002	34	9	50	7=100
Clinton: Late October, 1998	20	17	58	5=100
Clinton: Early October, 1998	19	23	52	6=100
Clinton: Early September, 1998	18	16	63	3=100

Q.16 CONTINUED...

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	Not a <u>factor</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
Clinton: Late August, 1998	20	17	61	2=100
Clinton: Early August, 1998	21	18	57	4=100
Clinton: June, 1998	20	18	57	5=100
Clinton: March, 1998	21	15	59	5=100
Clinton: Early September, 1996	24	18	51	7=100
Clinton: November, 1994	17	21	55	7=100
Clinton: Late October, 1994	17	21	57	5=100
Clinton: Early October, 1994	17	23	54	6=100
CBS/NYT Bush: 10/28-31, 1990	19	15	61	6=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 10/24-28, 1986	26	12	55	7=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 9/28-10/1, 1986	26	16	51	7=100
CBS/NYT Reagan: 10/23-28, 1982	23	21	51	5=100

Q.17 Generally what is more important to you this year... **(READ)?**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	<u>Oct 1998</u>	<u>Oct 1994</u>
30 Having new faces in office OR Having experienced people who	22	31
59 know how the government works	66	57
<u>11</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
100	100	100

NO QUESTIONS 18-19

On another subject...

Q.20 Compared to recent Congresses, would you say THIS Congress has accomplished more, accomplished less, or accomplished about the same amount?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	June <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>	Early Nov <u>2002</u>	June <u>2002</u>	July <u>2000</u>	Aug <u>1999</u>	Early Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Sept <u>1998</u>	Early Aug <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1997</u>	April <u>1997</u>	Oct <u>1994</u>	<i>Gallup</i>
7 More	7	7	11	16	21	13	24	24	18	25	10	9	
38 Less	45	41	27	22	16	23	23	17	15	13	24	38	
50 Same	42	47	54	57	56	60	49	55	62	59	58	50	
<u>5</u> Don't know/Ref.	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Q.21 What's your view... Do you think the country is more politically divided these days than in the past, or not?

	<u>Dec 2004</u>
70 More politically divided	66
24 Not more divided	26
<u>6</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>
100	100

NO QUESTIONS 22-23

ROTATE Q.24 AND Q.25

Q.24 How concerned are you, if at all, that if the Democrats take control of the Congress this fall they will weaken the country's efforts to combat terrorism? **[READ]**

		Aug 2006
31	Very concerned	35
21	Fairly concerned	22
18	Not too concerned	17
25	Not at all concerned	23
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>3</u>
100		100

Q.25 How concerned are you, if at all, that if the Republicans keep control of the Congress this fall they will get the U.S. involved in too many military operations overseas? **[READ]**

		Aug 2006
41	Very concerned	46
25	Fairly concerned	23
15	Not too concerned	18
15	Not at all concerned	11
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>2</u>
100		100

Q.26 Now I am going to read a list of things that have been in the news recently. For each, please tell me how often, if ever, it comes up in your conversations with family and friends. First how often do you talk about **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**... frequently, occasionally, hardly ever or never? What about...

		Frequ- ently	Occasi- onally	Hardly Ever	Never	DK/ Ref.
a.	The economy	54	32	9	4	1=100
b.	The war in Iraq	54	33	9	3	1=100
c.	Terrorism	47	36	12	4	1=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:

d.F1	Corruption in government	36	35	20	8	1=100
e.F1	Immigration	41	34	16	9	*=100
f.F1	The environment	33	41	21	5	*=100
g.F1	Taxes	46	33	17	4	*=100
h.F1	Crime	46	35	15	4	*=100
i.F1	Social Security	33	32	26	9	*=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:

j.F2	Health care	53	31	10	5	1=100
k.F2	Gas and energy prices	75	19	3	2	1=100

Q.26 CONTINUED...

		Frequ- <u>ently</u>	Occasi- <u>onally</u>	Hardly <u>Ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
l.F2	Education	54	30	11	4	1=100
m.F2	Moral issues	44	33	15	6	2=100
n.F2	The job situation	42	30	19	7	2=100
o.F2	The issue of gay marriage	14	20	31	33	2=100

ASK ALL:

Q.27 Next, please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do a better job in each of the following areas... (First,) which party could do a better job of... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE – OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]¹⁰

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both</u> <u>Equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	Don't <u>Know</u>
a.	Dealing with the economy	32	46	5	5	12=100
	February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8=100
	Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6=100
	July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12=100
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13=100
	Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13=100
	January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18=100
	May, 2001 ¹¹	33	44	8	5	10=100
	June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9=100
	March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9=100
	Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10=100
	March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5=100
	October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10=100
	Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9=100
	Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28=100
b.	Making wise decisions about what to do in Iraq	33	40	5	8	14=100
	February, 2006	38	41	3	8	10=100
	Mid-September, 2005	38	43	5	6	8=100
	July, 2004	38	40	4	6	12=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	42	33	6	6	13=100
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	46	30	7	4	13=100
c.	Dealing with the terrorist threat at home	41	32	7	6	14=100
	February, 2006	46	30	8	7	9=100
	Mid-September, 2005	45	34	7	6	8=100
	July, 2004	45	30	6	6	13=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	44	27	11	6	12=100

¹⁰ In January 1999, January 2001, January 2002, and May 2002, the question was worded: "Please tell me which party you think has the best ideas... the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?"

¹¹ In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous?"

Q.27 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	44	28	7	5	16=100
	Early September, 2002	44	22	14	6	14=100
	January, 2002	48	18	--	6	28=100
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:						
d.F1	Reforming government in Washington	25	41	4	16	14=100
	April, 2006	28	44	5	15	8=100
	February, 2006	29	42	7	12	10=100
	March, 1998 ¹²	37	35	8	10	10=100
	July, 1994	39	40	3	11	7=100
e.F1	Dealing with immigration	32	37	5	10	16=100
	April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13=100
	February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11=100
f.F1	Protecting the environment	19	57	5	6	13=100
	February, 2006	24	56	6	5	9=100
	Mid-September, 2005	28	51	5	7	9=100
	July, 2004	24	51	5	6	14=100
	Early September, 2002	25	46	9	6	14=100
	May, 2001	25	51	7	4	13=100
	June, 1999	27	45	7	5	16=100
	Early September, 1998	25	51	8	4	12=100
	March, 1998	22	56	8	5	9=100
	July, 1994	28	56	4	4	8=100
	December, 1993	22	46	--	12	20=100
	May, 1990	24	40	--	19	17=100
g.F1	Dealing with taxes	30	45	4	9	12=100
	February, 2006	35	46	5	6	8=100
	May, 2001	37	40	8	6	9=100
	June, 1999	38	38	5	7	12=100
	September, 1998	41	37	7	5	10=100
	March, 1998	39	40	6	7	8=100
	October, 1994	43	34	5	9	9=100
h.F1	Reducing crime	32	34	8	10	16=100
	February, 2006	37	30	8	10	15=100
	September, 2002	35	26	14	10	15=100
	June, 1999	35	35	12	6	12=100
	Early September, 1998	39	32	10	7	12=100
	March, 1998	35	34	11	10	10=100
	October, 1994	38	34	7	10	11=100
	December, 1993	29	35	--	17	19=100
	January, 1992	32	32	--	18	18=100
i.F1	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	26	46	4	11	13=100
	September, 2005	33	45	6	9	7=100

¹² In March 1998 and July 1994 the item was worded "reforming government."

Q.27 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	31	42	6	9	12=100
	Early September, 2002	30	38	8	10	14=100
	May, 2002	32	38	--	9	21=100
	January, 2002	28	40	--	6	26=100
	May, 2001 ¹³	35	43	6	5	11=100
	January, 2001	36	44	--	7	13=100
	June, 1999	33	41	4	9	13=100
	January, 1999	27	46	--	7	20=100
	Early September, 1998	37	42	7	5	9=100
	May, 1990	28	41	--	16	15=100
j.F1	Representing your views on abortion	33	44	2	6	15=100
	January, 1992 ¹⁴	29	39	--	11	21=100
	August, 1990	30	40	--	12	18=100
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:						
k.F2	Reforming the U.S. health care system	24	48	5	10	13=100
	February, 2006	27	49	6	9	9=100
	Mid-September, 2005	28	51	4	10	7=100
	July, 2004	23	50	4	10	13=100
	Early July, 2003	31	38	6	10	15=100
	January, 2002 ¹⁵	20	45	--	6	29=100
	January, 2001	30	47	--	7	16=100
	January, 1999	25	46	--	7	22=100
	Early September, 1998	31	43	7	7	12=100
	March, 1998	25	53	6	8	8=100
	October, 1994	34	41	5	10	10=100
	July, 1994	34	48	2	8	8=100
	December, 1993	25	47	--	10	18=100
	January, 1992	21	56	--	8	15=100
	May, 1990	20	50	--	16	14=100
l.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problems	27	47	4	7	15=100
	February, 2006	32	45	6	7	10=100
	Mid-September, 2005	31	44	6	8	11=100
	May, 2001	36	34	10	7	13=100

¹³ For May 2001, June 1999, Early September 1998 and May 1990, the question was worded, "Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job in each of the following areas ... keeping Social Security financially sound?"

¹⁴ In January 1992 and August 1990, the question was worded, "Which political party - the Republican Party or the Democratic party do you think could do a better job of:"

¹⁵ From 1999 to 2002, the item was listed as "...regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans." In December 1993 question was worded "Reforming health care." In January 1992 and May 1990 the question was worded "improving health care in the U.S."

Q.27 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
m.F2	Improving the educational system	28	46	7	6	13=100
	February, 2006	33	44	8	7	8=100
	Mid-September, 2005	35	44	6	7	8=100
	July, 2004	29	45	7	7	12=100
	January, 2002	37	34	--	6	23=100
	May, 2001	36	38	11	6	9=100
	January, 2001	40	41	--	7	12=100
	June, 1999	29	52	7	5	7=100
	March, 1999	33	46	6	5	10=100
	January, 1999	26	46	--	7	21=100
	Early September, 1998	34	42	10	4	10=100
	March, 1998	29	49	10	5	7=100
	July, 1994	37	46	4	5	8=100
	January, 1992	28	48	--	10	14=100
	May, 1990	30	42	--	14	14=100
n.F2	Reducing the federal budget deficit	27	47	4	8	14=100
	February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7=100
	Early October, 2005 ¹⁶	29	47	6	10	8=100
	June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9=100
	July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7=100
	December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15=100
o.F2	Improving morality in this country	34	36	5	10	15=100
	July, 2004	37	35	5	10	13=100
	January, 2002	38	27	--	8	27=100
	January, 2001	49	26	--	11	14=100
	January, 1999	37	29	--	17	17=100
	June, 1999 ¹⁷	40	33	7	11	9=100
	Early September, 1998	45	27	8	9	11=100
	March 1998	43	29	9	11	8=100
	October, 1994	40	35	6	8	11=100
	July, 1994	46	34	4	8	8=100
p.F2	Improving the job situation	29	47	6	5	13=100
	March, 1998	30	51	7	5	7=100
	October, 1994	37	42	6	7	8=100

ALWAYS ASK ITEM “q” LAST

q.F2	And finally, which party comes closest to your views on homosexuality	32	35	1	8	24=100
	July, 2004	34	32	2	8	24=100
	Early September, 1998	35	34	2	6	23=100

NO QUESTION 28

¹⁶ In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the question was worded “keeping the federal budget balanced.” In December 1993 the question was worded “reducing the budget deficit.”

¹⁷ In June 1999 and earlier the item was worded “...promoting morality and personal responsibility.”

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:

Q.29F1 In your view, does the [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] or the [NEXT ITEM] have better political leaders?

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

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:

Q.30F2 In your view, does the [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] or the [NEXT ITEM] have stronger political leaders?

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

ASK ALL:

Q.31 There is now a new Medicare law that includes some coverage of prescription drug costs for seniors. Overall, would you say you strongly approve, approve, DISapprove, or strongly disapprove of the way Medicare will now cover prescription drug costs?

		Mar <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u> ¹⁸	Dec <u>2003</u>
13	Strongly approve	12	13	12
39	Approve	39	35	43
20	Disapprove	22	20	17
10	Strongly disapprove	10	10	10
<u>18</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>17</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>18</u>
100		100	100	100

NO QUESTIONS 32-39

¹⁸ In December 2005 the question did not include the words "for seniors." In December 2003 the question was worded "As you may know, Congress passed a new Medicare law that includes some coverage of prescription drug costs and changes the way Medicare covers other medical expenses for senior citizens. Overall, would you say you strongly approve, approve, DISapprove, or strongly disapprove of these recent changes?"

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the issue of terrorism for a moment...

Q.40 Do you think the United States is winning or losing the war on terrorism?

		(RVs)	Early	Early
		Nov	Oct	Sept
		<u>2004</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2004</u>
39	Winning	45	46	52
41	Losing	31	31	28
9	Neither (VOL)	10	9	9
<u>11</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.41 In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it is necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?

										L.A. Times	
		July	July	Aug	June	Jan	Mid-	Sept	April	March	April
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u> ¹⁹	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	
43	Yes, it is necessary	40	38	44	49	55	55	29	30	49	
50	No, it is not necessary	53	56	50	45	39	35	62	65	43	
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Q.42 Do you think it is generally right or generally wrong for the government to monitor telephone and e-mail communications of Americans suspected of having terrorist ties without first obtaining permission from the courts?

		Feb	Jan
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>
54	Generally right	54	48
41	Generally wrong	43	47
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100

ASK SEPT 7-10 ONLY [N=1159]:

Q.42X Recently, there has been some discussion of what rights terrorist suspects should have as they are brought to trial. Do you think George W. Bush is doing an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job handling this issue?

10	Excellent
30	Good
25	Only fair
27	Poor
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

¹⁹ In 2003 and earlier the question was worded: "In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it will be necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?"

Thinking about IRAN for a moment...

Q.43 How much, if anything, have you read or heard about the dispute about Iran's nuclear program? **[READ]**

		Feb <u>2006</u>
41	A lot	32
44	A little	46
14	Nothing at all	21
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:

Q.44F1 From what you know, would you favor or oppose the United States negotiating directly with Iran over the issue of its nuclear program?

54	Favor
32	Oppose
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:

Q.45F2 Who should take the lead in dealing with Iran's nuclear program? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

		May <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>
21	The United States OR	21	17
70	The United Nations	72	78
2	Other (VOL. DO NOT READ)	3	2
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.46 Which is your greater concern when it comes to dealing with Iran's nuclear program ... that we will take action TOO QUICKLY, or that we will wait TOO LONG?

		May <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>
35	Take action too quickly	34	34
51	Wait too long	53	53
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
100		100	100

NO QUESTIONS 47-49

QUESTIONS 50 THROUGH 53 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTION 54

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.55 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/ Ref</u>
September, 2006	49	43	8=100
August, 2006	45	46	9=100
July, 2006	44	50	6=100
June, 2006	49	44	7=100
April, 2006	47	46	7=100
March, 2006	45	49	6=100
February, 2006	51	44	5=100
January, 2006	45	47	8=100
December, 2005	47	48	5=100
Late October, 2005	48	45	7=100
Early October, 2005	44	50	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (RVs)	48	41	11=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>8=100</i>
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	25	6=100
March 25-27, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 23-24, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 20-22, 2003	71	22	7=100
Late January, 1991	77	15	8=100

Q.56 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL) DK/ Ref
September, 2006	8	39	28	20	5=100
August, 2006	8	33	32	23	4=100
June, 2006	16	37	25	18	4=100
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3=100
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6=100
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3=100
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5=100
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3=100
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6=100
Early September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4=100
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3=100
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3=100
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4=100
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3=100
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4=100
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4=100
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2=100
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3=100
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3=100
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5=100
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3=100
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4=100
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3=100
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3=100
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7=100</i>

NO QUESTION 57

Q.58 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	(VOL) DK/ Ref
September, 2006	47	47	6=100
August, 2006	48	46	6=100
June, 2006	50	45	5=100
April, 2006	48	48	4=100
March, 2006	44	50	6=100

Q.58 CONTINUED...

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/ Ref</u>
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 ²⁰	51	44	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

Q.59 Do you think the war in Iraq has helped the war on terrorism, or has it hurt the war on terrorism?

	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	(VOL) <u>No effect</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
September, 2006	41	45	5	9=100
June, 2006	44	40	6	10=100
March, 2006	38	44	8	10=100
January, 2006	44	38	8	10=100
Late October, 2005	44	44	6	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	43	43	6	8=100
July, 2005	39	47	7	7=100
February, 2005	44	41	7	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	45	40	6	9=100
Early September, 2004	46	40	6	8=100
August, 2004	45	44	4	7=100
July, 2004	43	45	5	7=100
June, 2004	43	44	4	9=100
Mid-March, 2004	50	37	5	8=100
Late February, 2004	62	28	3	7=100
Early February, 2004	55	32	7	6=100
December, 2003	59	26	6	9=100
September, 2003	54	31	7	8=100
May, 2003	65	22	6	7=100

²⁰ In June 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: "Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until a stable government is established there, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?"

	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>(VOL)</u> <u>No effect</u>	<u>Don't know/</u> <u>Refused</u>
April, 2003 ²¹	63	22	--	15=100
Early October, 2002	52	34	--	14=100

NO QUESTION 60

Q.61 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

	<u>Aug</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>April</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Early</u> <u>Oct</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Mid-</u> <u>Sept</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>July</u> <u>2005</u>
47 Should set a timetable	52	52	53	55	50	56	52	57	49
45 Should not set a timetable	41	42	40	39	42	38	43	37	45
1 Should get out now (VOL.)	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	*
<u>7</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:

Q.62F1 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in establishing a stable democratic government in Iraq?

	<u>Aug</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Feb</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Late Oct</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>July</u> <u>2005</u>
9 Definitely succeed	12	15	10	16	14	16	12	17
43 Probably succeed	35	40	39	39	42	41	44	43
29 Probably fail	30	29	33	28	26	28	29	25
10 Definitely fail	11	9	10	11	8	9	8	8
<u>9</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:

Q.63F2 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Iraq?

	<u>Aug</u> <u>2006</u>
13 Definitely succeed	14
44 Probably succeed	40
26 Probably fail	28
9 Definitely fail	12
<u>8</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100	100

²¹ In April 2003, the question was worded: "Do you think the war in Iraq will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?" In Early October 2002 the question was worded: "If the U.S. uses military force in Iraq, do you think this will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?"

ASK ALL:

Q.64 From what you've read and heard, how would you describe the current violence in Iraq, is it... **[READ AND ROTATE]**?

		March <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>
50	Mostly a civil war between competing factions in Iraq OR	42	30
37	Mostly an insurgency aimed against the U.S. and its allies	45	58
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100

Q.65 Regardless of how you yourself feel about the war in Iraq, do you think CRITICISM of how the war is being handled **[READ; ROTATE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

36	Helps America's enemies OR
15	Helps protect America OR
42	Neither
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

In terms of the election this Fall...

Q.66 If a candidate for Congress supported **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, would that make you more likely to vote FOR or AGAINST that candidate, or would it not be a factor in your vote?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1191]:

	Vote <u>for</u>	Vote <u>against</u>	Not a <u>factor</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/ Ref</u>
a. Bringing all the troops home from Iraq immediately	25	37	35	3=100
b. Setting a timetable for when troops would return from Iraq	31	23	42	4=100
c. Keeping U.S. troops in Iraq for as long as it takes to stabilize the situation	32	28	36	4=100

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) <u>No Preference</u>	(VOL) <u>Other Party</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
September, 2006	30	34	30	3	*	3=100
August, 2006	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100

PARTY CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No Preference</u>	(VOL) <u>Other Party</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Yearly Totals						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100
				No Preference/		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>		
1996	29	33	33	5=100		
1995	32	30	34	4=100		
1994	30	32	34	4=100		
1993	27	34	34	5=100		
1992	28	33	35	4=100		
1991	31	32	33	4=100		
1990	31	33	30	6=100		
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			

IF ANSWERED 1 IN PARTY, ASK [N=471]:

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

	Late																	
	Dec 05	Dec 04	Jul 04	Aug 03	Sep 00	Sep 99	Aug 99	Nov 97	Oct 95	Apr 95	Oct 94	Jul 94	Jun 92	May 90	Feb 89	May 88	Jan 88	May 87
17 Strong	16	18	17	14	14	10	11	11	11	15	16	13	11	13	15	13	12	11
13 Not Strong/DK	13	13	12	13	13	14	14	14	19	15	15	16	17	15	16	15	15	14
30%	29	31	29	27	27	24	25	25	30	30	31	29	28	28	31	28	27	25

IF ANSWERED 2 IN PARTY, ASK [N=498]:

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

	Late																	
	Dec 05	Dec 04	Jul 04	Aug 03	Sep 00	Sep 99	Aug 99	Nov 97	Oct 95	Apr 95	Oct 94	Jul 94	Jun 92	May 90	Feb 89	May 88	Jan 88	May 87
18 Strong	20	19	20	15	19	15	15	14	14	14	18	15	14	16	17	19	19	18
16 Not strong/DK	14	15	13	16	15	16	18	18	16	15	14	18	18	17	21	19	20	19
34%	34	34	33	31	34	31	33	32	30	29	32	33	32	33	38	38	39	37

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

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

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

ASK IF REPUBLICAN OR LEAN REPUBLICAN (1 IN PARTY OR 1 IN PARTYLN) [N=634]:

Q.67 Thinking about this year's Congressional elections, do you think the Republican Party will do better, worse, or about the same as it has in recent elections?

		<u>June 2006</u>	<u>Feb 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2005</u>
23	Better	19	23	17
20	Worse	18	17	20
52	About the same	58	56	55
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK IF DEMOCRAT OR LEAN DEMOCRAT (2 IN PARTY OR 2 IN PARTYLN) [N=704]:

Q.68 Thinking about this year's Congressional elections, do you think the Democratic Party will do better, worse, or about the same as it has in recent elections?

		<u>June 2006</u>	<u>Feb 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2005</u>
62	Better	59	64	62
4	Worse	2	2	1
30	About the same	35	28	31
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100