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- Stagnant political environment – voters continue to demand change
- Bush job approval remains stuck below 40 percent; disapproval up to 57 percent
- Democrats' huge advantage in generic congressional virtually unchanged since April, but doubts about Democrats continue to limit their electoral strength
- Raging Middle East violence creating concern about impact on U.S. security

## AN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLLING – JULY 31, 2006

by  
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With little more than three months until Election Day and a strong change environment evident across the country for months now, no news is good news for Democrats, and that's what they get in the latest public polls conducted and released this month. On virtually every major political indicator – direction of the country, consumer confidence, Bush job approval, generic congressional contest, congressional job approval, attitudes on Iraq, etc. – there has been relatively little movement over the last few months.

Republicans' failure to change voters' attitudes with their public relations offensives during this period on Iraq and the economy presages a very aggressive and nasty campaign season ahead; if they can't convince voters to vote *for* Republicans, they will once again try to convince them to vote *against* Democrats. In his analysis of this week's NBC News/*Wall Street Journal* poll, Republican strategist Bill McInturff made it clear that Democrats should expect to see a Republican onslaught beginning long before the traditional Labor Day start of the campaign season, saying that candidates waiting to engage until September would be "rolling the wrong dice."

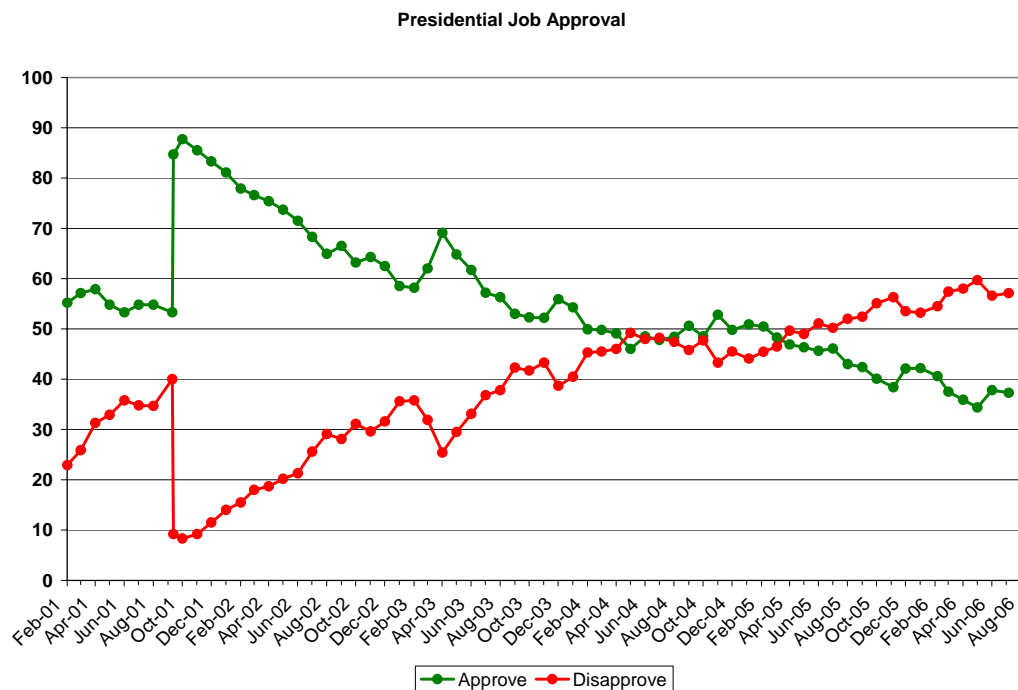
Indeed, attack ads hitting Democratic challengers on taxes, security, and corruption have already started to hit the airwaves in many targeted races. Democrats must be equally aggressive in their response to these attacks, confident in the knowledge that Americans remain deeply dissatisfied with the current direction of the country and with Republican leadership in Washington.

Iraq remains the dominant issue driving the public mood, while broad economic concerns centered around rising prices (especially gas and health care) and stagnant incomes continue to grow stronger. Only 30 percent of Americans now feel the country is headed in the right direction. Consumer confidence remains in its months-long rut (-11 in the most recent ABC News/*Washington Post* Consumer Comfort Index), and 2-in-3 Americans believe the economy

will be even worse a year from now. Broad majorities continue to view the war in Iraq as a mistake, and over 60 percent disapprove of President Bush’s handling of the issue. Just as these attitudes have not changed significantly, the primary challenge facing Democrats in the latest data remains the same – overcoming entrenched public doubts and establishing themselves as credible agents of change.

### Bush Approval Shows No Signs of Improvement

From the death of al Zarqawi to President Bush’s visit to Iraq to the G-8 Summit to the latest economic numbers, Republicans have pointed with hope over the last few months to a litany of supposed turning points for President Bush’s anemic approval ratings. Yet for the fifth month in row, his overall job approval remains mired below 40 percent. Across 8 polls conducted in July, approval of Bush’s performance now stands at 37 percent (down 1 point from June) while disapproval holds steady at 57 percent.



Bush’s ratings on foreign policy in general, the most recent controversies with Iran and North Korea, and the war on terrorism are higher than his abysmal marks on domestic issues. But on Iraq, the signature foreign policy issue of his presidency and a former bulwark of his political strength, his approval levels are now as low or lower than his marks on the economy.

However, the metric that has perhaps seen the greatest decline in recent months has been Bush's personal favorability. The latest CBS News/*New York Times* survey finds that less than 1-in-3 Americans now view Bush favorably (32 percent), including just 24 percent of Independents and, most surprisingly, just 69 percent of self-identified Republicans.

### **Democrats Maintain Commanding Lead in Congressional Race**

While all of the figures discussed in this report should concern Republicans in Washington, no figure is more alarming than the 10-point advantage that Democrats now enjoy across six July polls measuring the generic congressional contest. Republicans have sought to downplay the Democratic wave that such a large margin portends by pointing to the limited number of competitive seats and their efforts to shift the debate in individual districts from Iraq and the economic squeeze facing working and middle class families to character attacks and local pork barrel politics. But there is no escaping the fact that a double-digit Democratic advantage, if it holds for the next three months, should produce a Democratic House in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

The problem for Democrats in cementing this advantage is the continuing weakness of their own standing among voters. Voters have clearly turned against Republicans and the direction they have sought to take the country. They reject the current leadership in Washington and are desperate for a new direction. The good news for Democrats is that a majority in the most recent CBS/*Times* poll view them favorably (52 percent favorable, 41 percent unfavorable), in sharp contrast to the Republicans (43 percent favorable, 51 percent unfavorable). The bad news is that they are not yet viewed as advocating the kind of change voters seek – only 32 percent approve of congressional Democrats' handling of the Iraq situation, 33 percent on the war on terrorism, and 38 percent on the economy.

### **Americans See Increased Danger in Middle East**

As violence between Israel, Hamas, and Hezbollah has exploded in the Middle East over the last three weeks, Americans have been closely monitoring the developments there; more than 7-in-10 say they are following the situation very closely (28 percent) or somewhat closely (43 percent). They are clearly very concerned about the ultimate consequences of this growing conflict, as well as the consequences of the Bush administration's ineffectual response.

- Only 27 percent believe “the Bush administration has a clear and well-thought-out policy on the situation in the Middle East,” while 67 percent say it does not have such a plan.
- Americans clearly believe the current conflict has a direct impact on the U.S.
  - More than 3-in-4 say they are ‘very concerned’ (49 percent) or ‘somewhat concerned’ (27 percent) that the current violence will draw the U.S. military into the conflict

- A similar number are ‘very concerned’ (44 percent) or ‘somewhat concerned’ (31 percent) that the current conflict will increase the likelihood of terrorism against the U.S.
- Majorities believe the current violence between Israel and both the Palestinians (54 percent) and Hezbollah (53 percent) is likely to lead to a major war that brings in other countries.
- Half of Americans believe finding a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict should be a ‘very important’ goal for the U.S., while another 35 percent say it should be a ‘somewhat important’ goal
- Americans sympathize with Israelis in this conflict, but only 31 percent feel the U.S. should ‘take sides’ with Israel, while 65 percent want to see the U.S. remain neutral.

**Polls included in this analysis:**

**ABC NEWS.** 7/14-19/06; 1,015 adults.

**ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST.** Month ending 7/23/2006; 1,000 adults.

**AMERICAN RESEARCH GROUP.** 7/18-21/06; 1,100 adults.

**ASSOCIATED PRESS/IPSOS PUBLIC AFFAIRS.** 7/10-12/06; 1,000 adults;

**CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES.** 7/21-25/06; 1,127 adults.

**CNN.** 7/19/06; 633 adults.

**FOX NEWS/OPINION DYNAMICS.** 7/11-12/06; 900 registered voters.

**GALLUP.** 7/6-9/06; 1,007 adults.

**GALLUP/USA TODAY.** 7/21-23/06; 1,005 adults.

**GALLUP/USA TODAY.** 7/6-9/06; 1,007 adults.

**GALLUP/USA TODAY.** 7/21-23/06; 1,005 adults.

**HARRIS.** 7/5-11/06; 1,020 adults.

**HARRIS.** 7/7-10/06; 1,002 adults.

**LAKE RESEARCH (D)/TARRANCE GROUP (R).** 7/9-13/06; 1,100 registered "likely" voters.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO.** 7/19-23/06; 1,000 likely voters.

<b>BUSH JOB APPROVAL – POST 9/11/01</b>				
		<b>Approve</b>	<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>App – Disapp</b>
<b>Monthly Average – July</b>	<b>Jul-06</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>-19.0</b>
CBS/New York Times	7/25/2006	36	55	-19.0
NBC News/Wall Street Journal	7/24/2006	39	56	-17.0
USA Today/Gallup	7/23/2006	37	59	-22.0
Diageo/Hotline^	7/23/2006	38	59	-21.0
Pew	7/19/2006	36	57	-21.0
Democracy Corps	7/18/2006	42	54	-12.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	7/12/2006	36	53	-17.0
AP/Ipsos#	7/12/2006	36	63	-27.0
Gallup	7/9/2006	40	55	-15.0
<b>Monthly Average – June</b>	<b>Jun-06</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>-18.8</b>
Time	6/29/2006	35	59	-24.0
Democracy Corps	6/29/2006	42	54	-12.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	6/28/2006	41	50	-9.0
LA Times/Bloomberg	6/27/2006	41	56	-15.0
USA Today/Gallup	6/25/2006	37	60	-23.0
ABC News/Washington Post	6/25/2006	38	60	-22.0
Diageo/Hotline^	6/25/2006	41	56	-15.0
Pew	6/19/2006	36	54	-18.0
CNN	6/15/2006	37	53	-16.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	6/14/2006	40	52	-12.0
NBC News/Wall Street Journal	6/12/2006	37	58	-21.0
CBS	6/11/2006	33	60	-27.0
USA Today/Gallup	6/11/2006	38	56	-18.0
AP/Ipsos#	6/7/2006	35	63	-28.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	6/4/2006	37	57	-20.0
USA Today/Gallup	6/4/2006	36	57	-21.0
<b>Monthly Average – May</b>	<b>May-06</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>-25.3</b>
Quinnipiac^	5/30/2006	35	58	-23.0
Democracy Corps	5/24/2006	37	58	-21.0
Pew	5/22/2006	33	56	-23.0
Diageo/Hotline^	5/21/2006	37	61	-24.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	5/18/2006	35	56	-21.0
CBS	5/17/2006	35	60	-25.0
CNN	5/17/2006	36	57	-21.0
ABC News/Washington Post	5/15/2006	33	65	-32.0
Newsweek	5/12/2006	35	59	-24.0
Gallup	5/11/2006	33	61	-28.0
CBS/New York Times	5/8/2006	31	63	-32.0
CNN	5/7/2006	34	58	-24.0
USA Today/Gallup	5/7/2006	31	65	-34.0
AP/Ipsos#	5/3/2006	33	65	32.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	5/3/2006	38	53	-15.0

<b>Monthly Average – April</b>	<b>Apr-06</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>-22.1</b>
CBS	4/30/2006	33	58	-25.0
Gallup/USA Today#	4/30/2006	34	63	-29.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	4/30/2006	36	59	-23.0
Democracy Corps#	4/24/2006	40	56	-16.0
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	4/24/2006	36	57	-21.0
CNN	4/23/2006	32	60	-28.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	4/19/2006	33	57	-24.0
Pew Research	4/16/2006	35	55	-20.0
Gallup#	4/13/2006	36	59	-23.0
LA Times/Bloomberg	4/11/2006	39	57	-18.0
Gallup/USA Today#	4/9/2006	37	60	-23.0
ABC News/Washington Post#	4/9/2006	38	60	-22.0
CBS	4/9/2006	37	56	-19.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	4/9/2006	37	56	-19.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	4/5/2006	36	53	-17.0
AP/Ipsos#	4/5/2006	36	62	-26.0
<b>Monthly Average – March</b>	<b>Mar-06</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>-19.9</b>
<b>Monthly Average – February</b>	<b>Feb-06</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>-13.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – January</b>	<b>Jan-06</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>-10.9</b>
<b>Monthly Average – December</b>	<b>Dec-05</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>-11.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average – November</b>	<b>Nov-05</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>-17.9</b>
<b>Monthly Average – October</b>	<b>Oct-05</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>-15.1</b>
<b>Monthly Average – September</b>	<b>Sep-05</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>-10.0</b>
<b>Monthly Average – August</b>	<b>Aug-05</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>-9.0</b>
<b>Monthly Average – July</b>	<b>Jul-05</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>-4.1</b>
<b>Monthly Average – June</b>	<b>Jun-05</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>-5.4</b>
<b>Monthly Average – May</b>	<b>May-05</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>-2.6</b>
<b>Monthly Average – April</b>	<b>Apr-05</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
<b>Monthly Average – March</b>	<b>Mar-05</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – February</b>	<b>Feb-05</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Monthly Average – January</b>	<b>Jan-05</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – December</b>	<b>Dec-04</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average – November</b>	<b>Nov-04</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Monthly Average – October</b>	<b>Oct-04</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – September</b>	<b>Sep-04</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – August</b>	<b>Aug-04</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Monthly Average – July</b>	<b>Jul-04</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Monthly Average – June</b>	<b>Jun-04</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Monthly Average – May</b>	<b>May-04</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>-3.2</b>
<b>Monthly Average – April</b>	<b>Apr-04</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Monthly Average – March</b>	<b>Mar-04</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average – February</b>	<b>Feb-04</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Monthly Average – January</b>	<b>Jan-04</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average – December</b>	<b>Dec-03</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>17.2</b>
<b>Monthly Average – November</b>	<b>Nov-03</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>8.9</b>

Monthly Average – October	Oct-03	52.3	41.7	10.6
Monthly Average – September	Sep-03	53	42.3	10.7
Monthly Average – August	Aug-03	56.3	37.8	18.5
Monthly Average – July	Jul-03	57.2	36.8	20.4
Monthly Average – June	Jun-03	61.7	33.1	28.6
Monthly Average – May	May-03	64.8	29.5	35.3
Monthly Average – April	Apr-03	69.1	25.4	43.7
Monthly Average – March	Mar-03	62	31.9	30.1
Monthly Average – February	Feb-03	58.2	35.8	22.4
Monthly Average – January	Jan-03	58.5	35.6	22.9
Monthly Average – December	Dec-02	62.5	31.6	30.9
Monthly Average – November	Nov-02	64.3	29.6	34.7
Monthly Average – October	Oct-02	63.2	31.1	32.1
Monthly Average – September	Sep-02	66.5	28.1	38.4
Monthly Average – August	Aug-02	64.9	29.1	35.8
Monthly Average – July	Jul-02	68.3	25.6	42.7
Monthly Average – June	Jun-02	71.5	21.3	50.2
Monthly Average – May	May-02	73.7	20.2	53.5
Monthly Average – April	Apr-02	75.4	18.7	56.7
Monthly Average – March	Mar-02	76.6	18	58.6
Monthly Average – February	Feb-02	77.9	15.5	62.4
Monthly Average – January	Jan-02	81.1	14	67.1
Monthly Average – Dec.	Dec-01	83.3	11.5	71.8
Monthly Average – Nov.	Nov-01	85.5	9.2	76.3
Monthly Average – Oct.	Oct-01	87.7	8.3	79.4
Monthly Average – Sept.	Sep-01	84.7	9.2	75.5
Monthly Average – Sept.	Sep-01	53.3	40	13.3
Monthly Average – August	Aug-01	54.8	34.7	20.1
Monthly Average – July	Jul-01	54.8	34.8	20
Monthly Average – June	Jun-01	53.3	35.8	17.5
Monthly Average – May	May-01	54.8	32.9	21.9
Monthly Average – April	Apr-01	57.9	31.3	26.6
Monthly Average – March	Mar-01	57.1	25.9	31.2
Monthly Average – Feb.	Feb-01	55.2	22.9	32.3

Key: # - Adults, \* - Registered Voters, ^ - Likely Voters, ~ - Nov. 2 Voters

<b>BUSH JOB APPROVAL – PRE 9/11/01</b>				
		<b>Approve</b>	<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>App – Disapp</b>
<b>Monthly Average – Sept.</b>	<b>9/01</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>+13.3</b>
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	9/10/01	51	39	+12
ABC News/Wash Post#	9/9/01	55	41	+14
Democracy Corps^	9/6/01	54	40	+14
<b>Monthly Average – August</b>	<b>8/01</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>+20.1</b>
CBS News#	8/31/01	50	38	+12
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/26/01	55	36	+19
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/19/01	57	34	+23
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/12/01	57	35	+22
Bloomberg#	8/5/01	55	30	+25
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/5/01	55	35	+20
<b>Monthly Average – July</b>	<b>7/01</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>+20.0</b>
ABC News/Wash Post#	7/30/01	59	38	+21
Harris#	7/25/01	56	39	+17
Gallup#	7/22/01	56	33	+23
Time/CNN#	7/18/01	55	35	+20
Pew#	7/12/01	52	27	+25
American Research Group#	7/12/01	51	37	+14
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	7/11/01	57	35	+22
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	7/1/01	52	34	+18
<b>Monthly Average – June</b>	<b>6/01</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>+17.5</b>
NBC News/WSJ	6/25/01	50	35	+15
Harris#	6/18/01	50	46	+4
CBS/NYTimes#	6/18/01	53	34	+19
Pew#	6/17/01	50	33	+17
Gallup#	6/17/01	55	33	+22
Democracy Corps^	6/13/01	58	35	+23
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	6/10/01	55	35	+20
ABC News/Wash Post#	6/3/01	55	40	+15
Bloomberg#	6/3/01	54	31	+23
<b>Monthly Average – May</b>	<b>5/01</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>+21.9</b>
<b>Monthly Average – April</b>	<b>4/01</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>+26.6</b>
<b>Monthly Average – March</b>	<b>3/01</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>+31.2</b>
<b>Monthly Average – Feb.</b>	<b>2/01</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>+32.3</b>

Key: # - Adults, \* - Registered Voters, ^ - Likely Voters

Poll	COUNTRY DIRECTION				
	Direction/Satisfied	Date	Right	Wrong	Right-Wrong
<b>Monthly Average - July 2006</b>		<b>Jul-06</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>-33.6</b>
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	D	7/24/2006	27	60	-33
Gallup/USA Today#	S	7/23/2006	33	65	-32
Pew Research Center#	S	7/19/2006	30	65	-35
Democracy Corps#	D	7/18/2006	30	61	-31
AP/Ipsos#	D	7/12/2006	30	67	-37
<b>Monthly Average - June 2006</b>		<b>Jun-06</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>-36.3</b>
Time^	D	6/29/2006	28	66	-38
Democracy Corps#	D	6/29/2006	30	63	-33
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	D	6/12/2006	27	61	-34
AP/Ipsos#	D	6/7/2006	26	70	-44
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies	D	6/4/2006	27	61	-34
Gallup#	S	6/4/2006	30	67	-37
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	D	6/3/2006	27	61	-34
<b>Monthly Average - May 2006</b>		<b>May-06</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>-44.8</b>
Democracy Corps#	D	5/24/2006	29	63	-34
Newsweek	S	5/12/2006	23	71	-48
Gallup#	S	5/11/2006	25	72	-47
AP/Ipsos#	D	5/3/2006	23	73	-50
<b>Monthly Average - April 2006</b>		<b>Apr-06</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>-41.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average - March 2006</b>		<b>Mar-06</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>-34.1</b>
<b>Monthly Average - February 2006</b>		<b>Feb-06</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>-24.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average - January 2006</b>		<b>Jan-06</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>-22.9</b>
<b>Monthly Average - December 2005</b>		<b>Dec-05</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>-27.5</b>
<b>Monthly Average - November 2005</b>		<b>Nov-05</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>64.6</b>	<b>-34.1</b>
<b>Monthly Average - October 2005</b>		<b>Oct-05</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>-28.5</b>
<b>Monthly Average - September 2005</b>		<b>Sep-05</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>-28.0</b>
<b>Monthly Average - August 2005</b>		<b>Aug-05</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>57.7</b>	<b>-21.0</b>
<b>Monthly Average - July 2005</b>		<b>Jul-05</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>-18.6</b>
<b>Monthly Average - June 2005</b>		<b>Jun-05</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>-18.8</b>
<b>Monthly Average - May 2005</b>		<b>May-05</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>-19.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average - April 2005</b>		<b>Apr-05</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>-17.7</b>
<b>Monthly Average - March 2005</b>		<b>Mar-05</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>-15.3</b>
<b>Monthly Average - February 2005</b>		<b>Feb-05</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>-10.7</b>
<b>Monthly Average - January 2005</b>		<b>Jan-05</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>-9</b>
<b>Monthly Average - December 2004</b>		<b>Dec-04</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>-7</b>
<b>Monthly Average - November 2004</b>		<b>Nov-04</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>-6</b>
<b>Monthly Average - October 2004</b>		<b>Oct-04</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>-12.7</b>
<b>Monthly Average - September 2004</b>		<b>Sep-04</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>-9.3</b>

Monthly Average - September 2004	Sep-04	42.4	51.7	-9.3
Monthly Average - August 2004	Aug-04	40.0	53.4	-13.4
Monthly Average - July 2004	Jul-04	39.1	54.3	-15.2
Monthly Average - June 2004	Jun-04	38.6	54.4	-15.8
Monthly Average - May 2004	May-04	34.6	58.6	-24
Monthly Average - April 2004	Apr-04	38.8	56.8	-18
Monthly Average - March 2004	Mar-04	39.0	54.8	-15.8
Monthly Average - February 2004	Feb-04	42.0	53.5	-11.5
Monthly Average - January 2004	Jan-04	46.9	47.2	-0.3
Monthly Average - December 2003	Dec-03	46.0	45.9	0.1
Monthly Average - November 2003	Nov-03	40.7	52.0	-11.3
Monthly Average - October 2003	Oct-03	40.3	53.4	-13.1
Monthly Average - September 2003	Sep-03	38.2	54.8	-16.6
Monthly Average - August 2003	Aug-03	40.8	52.8	-12
Monthly Average - July 2003	Jul-03	43.5	49.3	-5.8
Monthly Average - June 2003	Jun-03	47.2	46.0	1.2
Monthly Average - May 2003	May-03	51.0	42.2	8.8
Monthly Average - April 2003	Apr-03	56.5	35.0	21.5
Monthly Average - March 2003	Mar-03	46.6	46.6	0
Monthly Average - February 2003	Feb-03	40.0	52.8	-12.8
Monthly Average - January 2003	Jan-03	38.6	52.0	-13.4
Monthly Average - December 2002	Dec-02	43.4	48.2	-4.8
Monthly Average - November 2002	Nov-02	46.8	46.5	0.3
Monthly Average - October 2002	Oct-02	42.8	48.3	-5.5
Monthly Average - September 2002	Sep-02	46.2	45.3	0.8
Monthly Average - August 2002	Aug-02	46.0	47.0	-1
Monthly Average - July 2002	Jul-02	46.2	48.3	-2.2
Monthly Average - June 2002	Jun-02	49.6	39.0	10.6
Monthly Average - May 2002	May-02	52.0	40.2	11.8
Monthly Average - April 2002	Apr-02	55.5	34.3	21.3
Monthly Average - March 2002	Mar-02	56.0	36.3	19.8
Monthly Average - February 2002	Feb-02	63.0	31.5	31.5
Monthly Average - January 2002	Jan-02	63.5	28.0	35.5
Monthly Average - December 2001	Dec-01	67.7	22.7	45
Monthly Average - November 2001	Nov-01	63.7	27.3	36.3
Monthly Average - October 2001	Oct-01	67.0	29.0	38
Average - September 11-30, 2001	9/11-30/2001	59.3	32.7	26.7
Average - January 1-September 10, 2001	1/1-9/11/2001	48.1	43.2	5
Yearly Average - 2000	2000	53	37	16.5
Yearly Average - 1999	1999	52	39	12.5
Yearly Average - 1998	1998	54	38	15.4
Yearly Average - 1997	1997	46	46	0.2

<b>GENERIC CONGRESSIONAL BALLOT</b>				
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>D-R</b>
<b>Monthly Average - July</b>	<b>Jul-06</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>10.3</b>
CBS/New York Times RV	7/25/2006	35	45	10
Diageo/Hotline RV	7/23/2006	32	48	16
Democracy Corps LV	7/18/2006	43	50	7
FOX/Opinion Dynamics RV	7/12/2006	34	42	8
AP/Ipsos	7/12/2006	40	51	11
Gallup RV	7/9/2006	41	51	10
<b>Monthly Average - June</b>	<b>Jun-06</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Time RV	6/29/2006	35	47	12
Democracy Corps LV	6/29/2006	42	51	9
USA Today/Gallup RV	6/25/2006	38	54	16
ABC/Washington Post RV	6/25/2006	40	52	12
Diageo/Hotline RV	6/25/2006	36	41	5
Pew RV	6/19/2006	39	51	12
CNN RV	6/15/2006	38	45	7
FOX/Opinion Dynamics RV	6/14/2006	33	46	13
USA Today/Gallup RV	6/11/2006	39	51	12
USA Today/Gallup RV	6/4/2006	42	51	9
<b>Monthly Average - May</b>	<b>May-06</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Democracy Corps LV	5/24/2006	43	51	8
Diageo/Hotline RV	5/21/2006	36	42	6
ABC/Washington Post RV	5/15/2006	40	52	12
Newsweek RV	5/12/2006	39	50	11
CBS/New York Times RV	5/8/2006	33	44	11
CNN RV	5/7/2006	38	52	14
FOX/Opinion Dynamics RV	5/3/2006	38	41	3
AP/Ipsos	5/3/2006	34	48	14
<b>Monthly Average - April</b>	<b>Apr-06</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>10.4</b>
USA Today/Gallup RV	4/30/2006	39	54	15
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies	4/30/2006	37	48	11
Democracy Corps	4/24/2006	42	49	7
NBC News/Wall Street Journal	4/24/2006	39	45	6
CNN	4/23/2006	40	50	10
Pew RV	4/16/2006	41	51	10
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies	4/9/2006	36	46	10
USA Today/Gallup RV	4/9/2006	42	52	10
ABC/Washington Post RV	4/9/2006	40	55	15
CBS RV	4/9/2006	34	44	10
<b>Monthly Average - March</b>	<b>Mar-06</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>12.7</b>
Time RV	3/23/06	41	50	9
Democracy Corps LV	3/20/06	40	50	10

Newsweek RV	3/17/06	39	50	11
NPR LV	3/14/06	37	52	15
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	3/12/06	39	55	16
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	3/1/06	39	53	14
FOX/Opinion Dynamics RV	3/1/06	34	48	14
<b>Monthly Average - February</b>	<b>Feb-06</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>9.2</b>
Democracy Corps LV	2/27/2006	40	48	8
Diageo/Hotline RV	2/19/2006	31	46	15
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	2/12/2006	43	50	7
Pew RV	2/5/2006	41	50	9
Democracy Corps LV	2/2/2006	41	48	7
<b>Monthly Average - January</b>	<b>Jan-06</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>9.7</b>
ABC/Washington Post RV	1/26/2006	38	54	16
Democracy Corps LV	1/25/2006	41	49	8
CBS/New York Times RV	1/25/2006	34	43	9
Diageo/Hotline	1/15/2006	33	40	7
Harris	1/9/2006	34	43	9
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	1/8/2006	43	49	6
AP/Ipsos	1/5/2006	36	49	13
<b>Monthly Average - December</b>	<b>Dec-05</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>9.6</b>
ABC/Washington Post RV	12/18/2005	41	51	10
NPR LV	12/18/2005	37	45	8
Diageo/Hotline RV	12/13/2005	33	43	10
Democracy Corps LV	12/12/2005	41	49	8
CBS/New York Times RV	12/6/2005	33	42	9
Democracy Corps LV	12/4/2005	39	49	10
Time RV	12/1/2005	36	48	12
<b>Monthly Average - November</b>	<b>Nov-05</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>
<b>Monthly Average - October</b>	<b>Oct-05</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Monthly Average - September</b>	<b>Sep-05</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>9.5</b>

**POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT**

**Harris – 7/10/06**

<b>Generally speaking, would you say things in the country are going in the right direction or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?</b>	
Right direction	28%
Wrong track	61

**AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06**

<b>Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?</b>	
Right direction	30%
Wrong track	67

**Lake Research (D)/Tarrance Group (R) – 7/13/06**

<b>Do you feel things in this country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?</b>	
Right direction, strongly	16%
Right direction, somewhat	13
Wrong track, somewhat	10
Wrong track, strongly	52

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

<b>In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time?</b>	
Satisfied	33%
Dissatisfied	65

**NBC News/Wall Street Journal – 7/24/06**

<b>Do you think the nation is...</b>		
	7/06	6/06
Headed in the right direction	27	27
Off on the wrong track	60	61
Mixed	11	10

<b>Does the nation's direction feels more like a short-term blip or a longer-term decline?</b>	
Short-term blip	12
Longer-term decline	81

<b>Do you feel confident life for our children's generation will be better than it has been for us?</b>		
	7/06	12/01
Feel confident	27	49
Do not feel confident	65	42

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Right direction	28%	55%	7%	23%
Wrong direction	66	38	88	70

***Priorities***

**NBC News/Wall Street Journal – 7/24/06**

<b>Which one of these items do you think should be the top priority for the federal government?</b>		
	7/06	6/06
The war in Iraq	29	22
Terrorism	14	11
Job creation and economic growth	12	13
Energy and the cost of gas	11	11
Health care	11	14
Illegal immigration	9	14
Reducing the federal budget deficit	5	7
Environment	4	-
Iran's nuclear program	-	4

*Economy / Personal finances*

**ABC News/Washington Post Consumer Comfort Index**

Today	-11	
Last week	-9	
2006 high	-7	April 16, March 23
2006 low	-19	May 21
2005 average	-13	
2004 average	-11	
2003 average	-19	
2002 average	-11	
2001 average	+4	
2000 average	+29	Best full year
1992 average	-44	Worst full year
Record high	+38	Jan. 16, 2000
Record low	-50	Feb. 9, 1992
Average since 12/85	-9	

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/9/06**

<b>How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?</b>	
Excellent	5%
Good	33
Only fair	42
Poor	19

<b>Right now, do you think that economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting better or getting worse?</b>	
Getting better	28%
Getting worse	64
Same (vol.)	7

**American Research Group – 7/21/06**

<b>How do you rate the condition of the national economy these days?</b>	
Excellent	6%
Very good	8
Good	17
Bad	25
Very bad	30
Terrible	13

**Do you think the national economy is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?**

Getting better	19%
Staying the same	19
Getting worse	57

**Would you say that the national economy is in a recession, or not?**

Yes	38%
No	45

**A year from now, do you expect the national economy to be better than it is today, the same as it is today, or worse than it is today?**

Better than today	6%
The same as today	25
Worse than today	67

**How do you rate the condition of the financial situation in your household?**

Excellent	11%
Very good	12
Good	38
Bad	19
Very bad	13
Terrible	6

**Do you think the financial situation in your household is getting better, staying the same or getting worse?**

Getting better	17%
Staying the same	33
Getting worse	47

**A year from now, do you expect the financial situation in your household to be better than it is today, the same as it is today or worse than it is today?**

Better than today	17%
The same as today	36
Worse than today	45

**ABC News/Washington Post – 7/23/06**

<b>Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?</b>	
Excellent	3
Good	35
Not good	41
Poor	21

<b>Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?</b>	
Excellent	8%
Good	52
Not good	28
Poor	12

<b>Considering the cost of things today and your own personal finances, would you say now is an excellent time, a good time, a not so good time or a poor time to buy the things you want and need?</b>	
Excellent	2%
Good	33
Not good	45
Poor	20

## RATINGS OF BUSH

### *Bush Job*

#### CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/9/06

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?</b>	
Approve	40%
Disapprove	55

#### Harris – 7/10/06

<b>How would you rate the overall job President George W. Bush is doing as president – excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?</b>	
Positive	34%
Negative	65

#### AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06

<b>Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?</b>	
Approve	36%
Disapprove	63

#### FOX News – 7/12/06.

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as president?</b>				
	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Approve	36	8	74	26
Disapprove	53	84	14	59
Don't know	11	8	12	15

#### American Research Group – 7/21/06

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?</b>	
Approve	35%
Disapprove	59

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?</b>	
Approve	37%
Disapprove	59

**NBC News/Wall Street Journal – 7/24/06**

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing as president?</b>		
	7/06	6/06
Approve	39	37
Disapprove	56	58

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	36%	72%	10%	28%
Disapprove	55	20	87	55

***Bush Job – Issues***

**AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06**

<b>And when it comes to handling the economy, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling that issue?</b>	
Approve	38%
Disapprove	60

<b>And when it comes to domestic issues like health care, education and the environment, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling that issue?</b>	
Approve	36%
Disapprove	62

<b>When it comes to handling foreign policy issues and the war on terrorism, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling that issue?</b>	
Approve	44%
Disapprove	53

**When it comes to handling the situation in Iraq, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling that issue?**

Approve	38%
Disapprove	59

**American Research Group – 7/21/06**

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?**

Approve	31%
Disapprove	63

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling \_\_\_\_\_?**

<b>The economy:</b>	
Approve	39%
Disapprove	59
<b>Foreign affairs:</b>	
Approve	38%
Disapprove	56
<b>The situation in Iraq:</b>	
Approve	35%
Disapprove	62
<b>Terrorism:</b>	
Approve	47%
Disapprove	50
<b>The situation in the Middle East:</b>	
Approve	37%
Disapprove	56

**NBC News/Wall Street Journal – 7/24/06**

**Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing handling Iraq?**

	7/06	6/06
Approve	34	35
Disapprove	61	61

**Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing in the military conflict between Israel and the Lebanese group Hezbollah?**

Approve	45
Disapprove	39

**Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing in dealing with North Korea's missile tests?**

Approve	43
Disapprove	41

**Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing in dealing with Iran's nuclear energy program?**

Approve	38
Disapprove	46

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	35%	66%	13%	28%
Disapprove	54	26	78	57

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	33%	61%	13%	27%
Disapprove	59	32	84	58

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	32%	64%	7%	29%
Disapprove	62	33	89	63

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with North Korea?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	40%	62%	25%	36%
Disapprove	35	18	49	37

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	51%	82%	27%	47%
Disapprove	42	15	67	41

*Bush Favorability*

CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06

**Is your opinion of George W. Bush favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about George W. Bush yet to have an opinion?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	32%	69%	6%	24%
Not favorable	50	17	80	51
Undecided	15	13	11	22
Haven't heard enough	1	0	2	2

*Bush Qualities*

CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06

**How much confidence do you have in George W. Bush's ability to handle a crisis?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A lot	26%	60%	4%	16%
Some	27	23	22	34
A little	23	10	32	26
None at all	24	6	42	22

**Do you think leaders of other countries around the world have respect for George W. Bush, or not?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Have respect	30%	51%	18%	23%
Do not have respect	60	38	75	66

**Do you think George W. Bush has respect for leaders of other countries around the world, or not?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Yes	51%	76%	29%	49%
No	44	19	65	46

**FOREIGN POLICY/WAR ON TERRORISM**

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

<b>How likely is it that there will be further acts of terrorism in the United States over the next several weeks?</b>	
Very likely	10%
Somewhat likely	36
Not too likely	42
Not at all likely	10

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>During wartime, some presidents have either received or assumed special war powers, which give the president more authority to act independently when he feels it is necessary. In the current campaign against terrorism, is it a good idea or a bad idea for the president to have the authority to make changes in the rights usually guaranteed by the Constitution?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Good idea	43%	67%	24%	39%
Bad idea	53	28	73	56

<b>Compared to one year ago, do you feel more safe from the threat of terrorism, less safe, or about as safe as you felt one year ago?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
More safe	14%	25%	6%	11%
Less safe	18	10	26	17
Same	68	64	68	71

***Bush Foreign Policy***

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>When it comes to foreign policy in general, do you think the Bush Administration should do what it thinks is right no matter what U.S. allies think, or should the Bush Administration take into account the views of U.S. allies before taking action?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Do what it thinks is right	20%	36%	7%	18%
Takes views into account	75	60	89	75
It depends (vol.)	1	2	1	1

**When it comes to foreign policy in general, what do you think the Bush administration usually does? Do you think the Bush Administration usually does what it thinks is right no matter what U.S. allies think, or does the Bush Administration usually take into account the views of U.S. allies before taking action?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Does what it thinks is right	66%	57%	75%	66%
Takes views into account	29	36	23	27
Depends (vol.)	2	3	1	2

**Which of the following statements comes closer to your point of view -- the United States should take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts, or the United States should let other countries and the United Nations take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
U.S. should take lead	31%	44%	28%	23%
U.S. should not take lead	59	48	64	63
Depends/Some of both (vol.)	6	6	6	6

**Overall, in its efforts to fight terrorism, do you think the Bush administration has gone too far in restricting people's civil liberties, or has it not gone far enough, or has the balance been about right?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Too far	31%	11%	47%	33%
Not far enough	12	15	11	11
About right	52	69	35	51

*Iraq*

**Harris – 7/11/06**

**Are you confident that Iraq will be successful in developing a stable and reasonably democratic government?**

Yes	37%
No	56

**Do you think the invasion of Iraq, and recent events in Iraq, have made the United States much more respected, somewhat more respected, somewhat less respected or much less respected around the world?**

Much more respected	12%
Somewhat more respected	16
Somewhat less respected	34
Much less respected	34

Please say whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

<b>Invading and occupying Iraq has motivated more Islamic terrorists to attack Americans and the United States:</b>	
Agree	61%
Disagree	37
<b>Spending huge sums of money to invade and occupy Iraq has meant that a lot less money has been available to protect the United States against another terrorist attack:</b>	
Agree	56%
Disagree	42
<b>Invading Iraq has helped to reduce the threat of another terrorist attack against the United States:</b>	
Agree	41%
Disagree	58
<b>Most U.S. troops will be out of Iraq two years from now:</b>	
Agree	33%
Disagree	62

Do you believe that the following statements are true or not true?

<b>The Iraqis are better off now than they were under Saddam Hussein:</b>	
True	72%
Not true	22
<b>Saddam Hussein had strong links with Al Qaeda:</b>	
True	64%
Not true	30
<b>History will give the U.S. credit for bringing freedom and democracy to Iraq:</b>	
True	55%
Not true	43
<b>Iraq had weapons of mass destruction when the U.S. invaded:</b>	
True	50%
Not true	45

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

<b>In view of the developments since we first sent our troops to Iraq, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending troops to Iraq, or not?</b>	
Yes, a mistake	56%
No, not	41

**Here are four different plans the U.S. could follow in dealing with the war in Iraq. Which one do you prefer – withdraw all troops from Iraq immediately, withdraw all troops by August 2007 – that is, in 12 months' time, withdraw troops, but take as many years to do this as are needed to turn control over to the Iraqis, or send more troops to Iraq? (rotated)**

Withdraw immediately	19%
Withdraw in 12 months' time	33
Withdraw, take as many years as needed	38
Send more troops	7

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

**When it comes to foreign policy, do you think the Bush Administration has focused too much on Iraq and not enough on other countries, or too much on other countries and not enough on Iraq, or has the balance been about right?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Too much on Iraq	58%	35%	74%	64%
Too much on other countries	4	3	6	4
Balance about right	32	58	15	24

**Do you think the result of the war with Iraq was worth the loss of American lives and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Worth it	30%	57%	9%	28%
Not worth it	63	35	87	66

**Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the US have stayed out?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Right thing	47%	74%	24%	45%
Stayed out	48	24	71	47

**How would you say things are going for the U.S. in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very well	4%	9%	3%	2%
Somewhat well	37	60	18	35
Somewhat badly	30	21	38	29
Very badly	27	9	38	32

**Regardless of whether you think taking military action in Iraq was the right thing to do – would you say that the U.S. is very likely to succeed in Iraq, somewhat likely to succeed, not very likely to succeed, or not at all likely to succeed in Iraq?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very likely	14%	27%	6%	9%
Somewhat likely	44	54	35	43
Not very likely	29	15	38	33
Not at all likely	12	4	21	12

**How much longer do you think the United States troops will have to remain in Iraq?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Less than a year	5%	5%	7%	3%
One to two years	23	32	18	20
Two to five years	36	32	38	37
Longer than five years	31	23	34	36

**Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two, or 2. Iraq will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two, or 3. Iraq will probably never become a stable democracy.**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Will in the next year or two	4%	8%	2%	4%
Will, but will take longer	41	54	30	39
Will never become a democracy	53	37	67	55

**Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq -- the United States, or the Iraqi resistance and insurgents, or neither side?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
The U.S.	27%	49%	13%	20%
Iraq resistance	13	7	19	13
Neither side	58	41	66	64

**From what you have heard or read, how much progress has the United States made in training Iraqi troops to take over from the U.S. a lot, some, not much, none at all, or don't you know enough about it yet to say?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A lot	10%	18%	3%	8%
Some	32	41	29	27
Not much	19	7	23	24
None at all	3	2	3	3

*North Korea and Iran*

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/9/06**

<b>Which comes closest to your view -- North Korea poses an immediate threat to the United States, North Korea poses a long-term threat to the U.S., but not an immediate threat, or North Korea does not pose a threat to the United States at all?</b>	
Immediate threat	20%
Long-term threat	59
Does not pose a threat	15

<b>Do you consider North Korea an ally of the United States, friendly, but not an ally, unfriendly or an enemy of the United States?</b>	
Ally	2%
Friendly, not an ally	10
Unfriendly	34
Enemy	47

<b>As you may know, this past week North Korea test-launched a series of missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads. If you had to choose, what should the United States do to get North Korea to stop the testing and development of these missiles -- exert diplomatic pressure and impose economic sanctions on North Korea, launch military air-strikes or missile attacks against North Korea or invade North Korea with ground troops from the U.S. and other countries (rotated) -- or should the U.S. not do anything?</b>	
Exert diplomatic pressure/impose sanctions	72%
Launch air-strikes/missile attacks	9
Invade with ground troops	3
Not do anything	10

**FOX News – 7/12/06**

<b>Do you think North Korea poses a real national security threat to the United States?</b>		
	Yes	No
All	62	31
Democrats	62	30
Republicans	65	27
Independents	53	41

**Last week North Korea conducted its first test missile launch in eight years, including one long-range missile that crashed into the nearby Sea of Japan without causing any damage. After the recent missile launches, do you think North Korea is: 1. More of a threat because it went through with the launches in the face of international pressure against doing so OR 2. Less of a threat because the missiles did not work**

	More	Less	(Same)
All	62	18	15
Democrats	64	15	15
Republicans	67	18	12
Independents	53	23	18

**Now that North Korea has gone forward with testing missiles, do you think the United States should give diplomacy more of a chance, or should the U.S. carry out a preemptive military strike to stop North Korea from continuing to develop nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles?**

	Diplomacy	Preemptive strike	(DK)
All	68	20	12
Democrats	71	19	10
Republicans	58	28	13
Independents	75	14	11

**The United States has been testing a new anti-ballistic missile system. Do you think this system would have worked and successfully shot down the North Korean long-range missile if it had approached the US?**

	Yes	No
All	52	18
Democrats	49	21
Republicans	61	10
Independents	47	26

**Which one of the following are you most concerned about: (RANDOMIZE) SCALE: 1. North Korea using a long-range nuclear missile to attack the United States 2. North Korea using a short-range nuclear missile to attack Japan or South Korea 3. North Korea selling its nuclear weapons to terrorists or another country**

	Attack US	Attack Japan/S.Korea	Sell Weapons	All	None
All	16	14	42	19	6
Democrats	20	11	40	21	4
Republicans	16	13	44	19	5
Independents	12	20	43	14	8

**Do you think the situation in Iraq has led the United States to be less aggressive with North Korea and Iran than it should be?**

	Yes	No
All	54	37
Democrats	60	29
Republicans	49	42
Independents	53	39

**Do you think the United States should trust any agreements it may make with North Korea?**

	Yes	No
All	23	67
Democrats	25	62
Republicans	18	74
Independents	26	65

**Do you think a toughly-worded resolution from the United Nations will help a lot toward preventing North Korea from continuing to develop its weapons program, help some or not help at all?**

	A lot	Some	No help
All	9	39	46
Democrats	11	40	42
Republicans	8	37	51
Independents	7	41	47

**Which of the following is more likely? 1. China is actively trying to help the United States deal with military threats from North Korea and Iran 2. China is actually helping North Korea and Iran**

	Helping		Neither
	U.S	NK/Iran	
All	30	35	10
Democrats	32	35	9
Republicans	33	35	9
Independents	29	35	14

**Which of the following is more likely? 1. Russia is actively trying to help the United States deal with military threats from North Korea and Iran 2. Russia is actually helping North Korea and Iran**

	Helping		Neither
	U.S	NK/Iran	
All	32	31	11
Democrats	34	31	8
Republicans	28	36	11
Independents	34	30	16

**Do you think North Korea is deliberately trying to provoke war or is it just trying to get attention to get more money and aid from the United States and other countries?**

	War	Money	(Mix/Both)
All	17	58	11
Democrats	15	58	14
Republicans	22	57	10
Independents	14	66	10

**Which country do you think is more likely to start a nuclear war -- Iran or North Korea?**

	Iran	North Korea	(Both)	(Neither)
All	33	34	14	11
Democrats	27	38	16	11
Republicans	38	36	14	7
Independents	38	25	11	20

**How confident are you that US intelligence agencies are getting accurate information on the plans and activities of the Iranian and North Korean governments?**

	Confident			Not Confident		
	Total	Very	Somewhat	Total	Not very	Not
All	60	16	44	36	24	12
Democrats	51	12	39	43	28	15
Republicans	73	20	53	23	15	8
Independents	53	15	38	42	30	12

*Middle East Conflict*

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06**

**Do you think there will or will not come a time when Israel and the Arab nations will be able to settle their differences and live in peace?**

Yes, there will come a time	27%
No, there will not	68

**Do you think the Bush administration has a clear and well-thought out policy on the situation in the Middle East, or not?**

Yes, does have	27%
No, does not	67

<b>How closely have you been following the news about the attacks going on in Israel and Lebanon?</b>	
Very closely	28%
Somewhat closely	43
Not too closely	27
Not at all	6

**How much do you blame \_\_\_\_\_ for the current attacks in Israel and Lebanon?**

<b>Israel:</b>	
Great deal	15%
Moderate amount	30
Not very much	21
Not at all	23
<b>Hezbollah:</b>	
Great deal	53%
Moderate amount	23
Not very much	7
Not at all	5
<b>Iran:</b>	
Great deal	39%
Moderate amount	31
Not very much	13
Not at all	6
<b>Syria:</b>	
Great deal	29%
Moderate amount	36
Not very much	13
Not at all	6
<b>Lebanon:</b>	
Great deal	27%
Moderate amount	38
Not very much	15
Not at all	9

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the military action Israel has taken in Lebanon?</b>	
Approve, strongly	28%
Approve, not strongly	22
Disapprove, not strongly	23
Disapprove, strongly	15

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the military action Hezbollah has taken in Israel?</b>	
Approve, strongly	3%
Approve, not strongly	8
Disapprove, not strongly	24
Disapprove, strongly	52

<b>Which comes closest to your view of Israel's current military action in Lebanon -- Israel is justified in all of the military action it has taken so far, Israel is justified in taking some military action, but has gone too far, or Israel is not justified in any of the military action it has taken? (rotated)</b>	
Justified in all military action taken	33%
Justified, but gone too far	50
Not justified in any military action taken	7

<b>Do you favor or oppose the use of Israeli ground troops in an invasion of southern Lebanon?</b>	
Favor	40%
Oppose	47

<b>In the current conflict, do you think the United States should take Israel's side, take the side of Hezbollah or not take either side?</b>	
Israel's side	31%
Hezbollah's side	*
Not take either side	65

<b>As far as you are concerned, should the development of a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli situation in the Middle East be a very important foreign policy goal of the United States, a somewhat important goal, not too important, or not an important goal at all?</b>	
Very important	50%
Somewhat important	35
Not too important	8
Not at all important	7

**How concerned are you that each of the following will happen as a result of the current fighting between Israel and Hezbollah?**

<b>It will lead to a broader war including Syria, Iran, or both countries:</b>	
Very concerned	42%
Somewhat concerned	37
Not too concerned	13
Not at all concerned	5

<b>The United States' military will be drawn into the conflict:</b>	
Very concerned	49%
Somewhat concerned	27
Not too concerned	14
Not at all concerned	8
<b>It will lead to a broader war throughout the Middle East, involving all or most of the Arab countries in that region:</b>	
Very concerned	41%
Somewhat concerned	38
Not too concerned	14
Not at all concerned	6
<b>It will result in a nuclear attack somewhere in the Middle East:</b>	
Very concerned	33%
Somewhat concerned	31
Not too concerned	24
Not at all concerned	11
<b>It will increase the likelihood of terrorism against the United States:</b>	
Very concerned	44%
Somewhat concerned	31
Not too concerned	17
Not at all concerned	6
<b>It will develop into World War III:</b>	
Very concerned	34%
Somewhat concerned	27
Not too concerned	23
Not at all concerned	15

**NBC News/Wall Street Journal – 7/24/06**

<b>Are your sympathies more with Israel or more with the Arab nations?</b>	
More with Israel	54
More with Arab nations	11
Both	11
Neither	11

<b>Do you think that the current conflict between Israel and the Lebanese group Hezbollah will lead to a major Middle East war involving other countries?</b>	
Major war is likely	53
Major war is unlikely	34
Depends	6

**Do you think that the current conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians will lead to a major Middle East war involving other countries?**

Major war is likely	54
Major war is unlikely	34
Depends	5

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

**Is your overall opinion of Israel very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very favorable	20%	30%	13%	17%
Mostly favorable	41	44	40	40
Mostly unfavorable	20	16	24	20
Very unfavorable	6	4	7	7

**DOMESTIC ISSUES**

*Energy*

**ABC News – 7/19/06**

<b>Thinking about how much driving you do, would you say that in the weeks ahead you'll be driving more, less or about the same amount as you usually do?</b>	
More	12%
Less	15
Same	63
Don't drive/No car (vol.)	10

<b>(If "less") Why is that? What's the main reason you think you'll be driving less?</b>	
Price of gas	67%
Work/Vacation schedule	15
Health reasons	4
Staying home/Not going out much	4

<b>Have recent price increases in gasoline caused any financial hardship for you or others in your household, or not? (If "yes") Has that been a serious hardship, or not serious?</b>	
Yes, serious	29%
Yes, not serious	30
No	39

<b>How are you mainly paying for the added cost of gasoline -- spending less on other things, saving less, borrowing more on a credit card or other loan, or what?</b>	
Spend less	39%
Save less	20
Barrow more	10
All (vol.)	5
Other (vol.)	12
Not paying more (vol.)	6
Don't drive (vol.)	5

<b>(Asked of those who drive) What price per gallon would gasoline have to reach for you to significantly cut back on the amount of driving you do?</b>	
\$2.87-\$3.49	22%
\$3.50-\$3.99	13
\$4.00-\$4.99	18
\$5.00+	10
Already have/It's already there (vol.)	20

*Immigration*

**FOX News – 7/12/06**

**If Congress fails to pass an immigration bill before the upcoming midterm election, who do you think will be most to blame?**

	President Bush	Reps in Cong	Dems in Cong	(All)	(DK)
All	21%	22	21	24	13
Democrats	32%	29	10	17	12
Republicans	11%	17	38	22	12
Independents	16%	16	13	40	14

**In general, do you think immigrants who come to the United States today join society and give to the country or stay separate from society and take from the country?**

	Give to country	Take from country	Depends	(DK)
All	41	36	17	6
Democrats	46	31	17	6
Republicans	35	45	16	4
Independents	43	30	21	6

**Do you think the United States should increase or decrease the number of legal immigrants allowed to move to this country?**

	Increase	Decrease	(No Change)	(DK)
All	24	51	17	8
Democrats	26	48	19	7
Republicans	20	57	16	7
Independents	24	49	15	11

**Would you favor or oppose requiring at least half of the immigrants allowed into the United States to know English and have an education or a skill?**

	Increase	Decrease	(No Change)
All	81	15	4
Democrats	76	19	5
Republicans	82	14	4
Independents	86	11	3

**In dealing with the issue of illegal immigrants, do you think the United States should be more focused on: 1. Securing the borders and preventing illegal immigrants from entering the country 2. Figuring out how to deal with the illegal immigrants who are already here**

	Securing Borders	Deal w/ already here	(Both)
All	34	35	18
Democrats	29	39	28
Republicans	42	31	27
Independents	30	38	29

**Lake Research (D)/Tarrance Group (R) – 7/13/06**

<b>How serious of a problem would you say illegal immigration is in this country?</b>	
Extremely serious	33%
Very serious	28
Somewhat serious	30
Not at all serious	8

<b>How important do you feel it is for Congress to solve the problem of illegal immigration this year?</b>	
Extremely serious	33%
Very serious	29
Somewhat serious	29
Not at all serious	8

<b>The president and many leaders in Congress are considering several different proposals for immigration reform. If Congress was considering legislation which would do the following to create an earned legalization program: provide resources to greatly increase border security, impose much tougher penalties on employers who hire illegal workers, allow additional foreign workers to come to the United States to work for a temporary period, create a system in which illegal immigrants could come forward and register, pay a fine, and receive a temporary worker permit, provide these temporary workers with a multi-year path to earned citizenship, if they get to the end of the line and meet certain requirements like living crime free, learning English, paying taxes -- would you favor or oppose passage of this legislation?</b>	
Favor, strongly	41%
Favor, somewhat	31
Oppose, somewhat	6
Oppose, strongly	17

<b>And, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports this legislation?</b>	
More likely, strongly	37%
More likely, somewhat	28
Less likely, somewhat	7
Less likely, strongly	15

**Now, thinking about a different proposal for immigration reform. This legislation would do only the following: tighten the borders, put tougher penalties on employers and workers who violate immigration laws, create an expanded guest worker program that allows people to work here only temporarily, and most current illegal immigrants would never be eligible for citizenship...**

Favor, strongly	27%
Favor, somewhat	19
Oppose, somewhat	20
Oppose, strongly	30

**And, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports this legislation?**

More likely, strongly	28%
More likely, somewhat	17
Less likely, somewhat	19
Less likely, strongly	28

**Which would you prefer: Congress does nothing about immigration reform this year, or Congress passes an immigration reform bill that provides for increased border security and tougher enforcement but also contains things you do not like, such as amnesty for current illegal immigrants?**

Pass nothing, strongly	26%
Pass nothing	7
Bill with things do not like	13
Bill with things do not like, strongly	41

**Now I would like to read you a list of possible solutions to the current immigration problem that some people have made. Please listen as I read this list and tell me, for each one, whether you personally would think this is a solution that you would support or oppose.**

**Passing no legislation this year and taking a fresh look at this issue next year when election year politics will not be looming over the process:**

Support, strongly	32%
Support, somewhat	17
Oppose, somewhat	10
Oppose, strongly	37

**Passing legislation which only increases border security and enacts tougher penalties on employers, but does not include a guest worker program and does not include a path to citizenship for current illegal immigrants:**

Support, strongly	30%
Support, somewhat	15
Oppose, somewhat	15
Oppose, strongly	38

<b>Passing legislation that increases border security, enacts tougher penalties on employers, creates a temporary worker program for guest workers, and creates an earned legalization program in which illegal immigrants could earn legal status and eventual citizenship by working, paying taxes, learning English, and waiting their turn behind people in their home countries who are already waiting in line for visas:</b>	
Support, strongly	52%
Support, somewhat	26
Oppose, somewhat	5
Oppose, strongly	15
<b>(If "oppose") Passing legislation in which these reforms would be implemented in two stages. First, there would be an increase in border security and tougher penalties on employers. Then, upon certification by the federal government that these measures are in place, a guest worker and earned legalization program for current illegal immigrants would be enacted.</b>	
Support, strongly	15%
Support, somewhat	19
Oppose, somewhat	16
Oppose, strongly	49

<b>Which party do you think is most responsible for the fact that no law has yet been passed to reform immigration policies in this country? Would you say it is the Republicans in Congress, the Democrats in Congress, or both parties are equally to blame?</b>	
Republican Party	18%
Democratic Party	17
Both parties equally	60
Neither (vol.)	1

<b>Now I'd like to read you two viewpoints that people might make if Congress does not pass any immigration reform legislation this year. Please tell me which viewpoint comes closest to your own. Some people say it is a good idea not to pass immigration reform this year because many of the major proposals have too many flaws and Congress needs more time to get it right. Other people say it is a bad idea not to pass immigration reform this year because immigration reform is a critical issue that needs action this year.(rotated)</b>	
Good idea, too many flaws	54%
Bad idea, critical issues	43
Both equally (vol.)	1
Neither (vol.)	1

**Now I'd like to read you two viewpoints that people might make if Congress does not pass any immigration reform legislation this year. Please tell me which viewpoint comes closest to your own. Some people say the fact that a Republican controlled Congress did not pass immigration reform this year indicates that this is a party not capable of leading since they were not able to pass legislation to deal with such a critically important issue. Other people say the fact that a Republican controlled Congress did not pass immigration reform this year indicates that this is a party that is doing a good job leading Congress since they did not rush to judgment on an important issue with an election year solution.**

No bill, Republicans cannot govern	41%
No bill, Republicans are doing a good job	41
Both equally (vol.)	1
Neither (vol.)	12

**Now I would like you to think again about that list of possible solutions to the current immigration problem that some people have made. Please listen as I read this list and tell me, for each one, whether you would be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for Congress who supported that solution.**

**Passing no legislation this year and taking a fresh look at this issue next year when election year politics will not be looming over the process:**

More likely, strongly	32%
More likely, somewhat	18
Less likely, somewhat	13
Less likely, strongly	32

**Passing legislation which only increases border security and enacts tougher penalties on employers, but does not include a guest worker program and does not include a path to citizenship for current illegal immigrants:**

More likely, strongly	26%
More likely, somewhat	13
Less likely, somewhat	16
Less likely, strongly	42

**Passing legislation that increases border security, enacts tougher penalties on employers, creates a temporary worker program for guest workers, and creates an earned legalization program in which illegal immigrants could earn legal status and eventual citizenship by working, paying taxes, learning English, and waiting their turn behind people in their home countries who are already waiting in line for visas:**

More likely, strongly	52%
More likely, somewhat	21
Less likely, somewhat	7
Less likely, strongly	17

**(If "less likely") Passing legislation in which these reforms would be implemented in two stages. First, there would be an increase in border security and tougher penalties on employers. Then, upon certification by the federal government that these measures are in place, a guest worker and earned legalization program for current illegal immigrants would be enacted:**

More likely, strongly	13%
More likely, somewhat	17
Less likely, somewhat	19
Less likely, strongly	48

**Have you seen, read, or heard any statements by politicians on immigration reform that you personally thought were too harsh towards immigrants or Hispanic Americans? And do you feel strongly about that?**

Yes, strongly	22%
Yes	4
No	20
No, strongly	50

**(If "yes") Did these statements make you more likely or less likely to support Republican candidates for Congress?**

More likely, strongly	9%
More likely, somewhat	4
Less likely, somewhat	10
Less likely, strongly	59

**Prior to this survey, had you seen, read, or heard anything about the immigration reform legislation passed in December by the United States House of Representatives that would tighten the border, enact tougher enforcement of immigration laws against employers, and make illegal immigration a felony crime?**

Yes	62%
No	35

**(If "yes") Did what you saw, read, or heard about this legislation make you more likely or less likely to support Republican candidates for Congress?**

More likely, strongly	28%
More likely, somewhat	9
Less likely, somewhat	12
Less likely, strongly	36

*Stem Cells*

CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/23/06

**As you may know, earlier this week, President Bush vetoed a bill that would have expanded federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. Do you approve or disapprove of his decision to veto this bill?**

Approve	36%
Disapprove	58

**(If "disapprove") How upset are you that President Bush vetoed this bill – very upset, somewhat upset, not too upset or not at all upset?**

Approve	36%
Disapprove, upset	44
Disapprove, not upset	14

**Would you say President Bush vetoed this bill mostly on the basis of personal moral beliefs or mostly in an attempt to gain political advantage? (rotated)**

Personal moral beliefs	61%
Gain political advantage	32

**CONGRESS & OTHER POLITICAL FIGURES**

*2006 Congressional Elections*

**CNN/USA Today/Gallup – 7/9/06**

<b>If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your congressional district – the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (rotated)</b>	
Democratic candidate	49%
Republican candidate	39

**Harris – 7/10/06**

<b>If the election for Congress were being held today, would you be voting for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?</b>				
	All	Rep	Ind	Dem
Republican	31%	82%	25%	3%
Democrat	44	5	35	86
Other	17	7	30	9

**AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06**

<b>(Asked of registered voters) If the election for U.S. House of Representatives were held today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate in your congressional district?</b>	
Definitely will vote for Democratic candidate	23%
Probably will vote for Democratic candidate	15
Could change mind – Democrat	17
Definitely will vote for Republican candidate	17
Probably will vote for Republican candidate	12
Could change mind – Republican	13

<b>Will your vote for Congress be at least in part to show opposition to Pres. Bush, support for Pres. Bush, or will Pres. Bush not be a factor in your vote for Congress?</b>	
To show opposition	20%
To show support	15
Will not be a factor	63

<b>No matter how you will vote in Nov., if the election for Congress were held today, would you want to see the Republicans or Democrats win control of Congress?</b>	
Republicans	36%
Democrats	53
Neither (vol.)	7

**FOX News – 7/12/06**

**This fall there will be elections for Congress and other offices. Right now, how interested are you in this year's elections?**

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Extremely interested	19%	23%	17%	17%
Very interested	38	37	38	37
Somewhat interested	23	19	27	27
Slightly interested	11	11	10	11
Not at all interested	7	8	6	7

**Thinking ahead to this November's elections, if the congressional election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate in your district or the Republican candidate in your district?**

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Democrat	38%	77%	5%	22%
Lean Democrat	4	5	2	8
Republican	31	4	73	17
Lean Republican	3	1	5	0

**Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate if President Bush campaigns for them?**

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
More likely	21%	6%	47%	7%
Less likely	48	76	12	55
No difference	26	14	36	34

**Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate if Senator Hillary Clinton campaigns for them?**

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
More likely	30%	56%	5%	22%
Less likely	44	21	75	39
No difference	20	16	16	33

**If you are registered or affiliated with a political party, how often do you vote for candidates from that party?**

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Always	18%	23%	22%	5%
Most of the time	38	44	45	20
About half the time	14	11	12	24
Sometimes	16	13	14	23
Never	4	3	3	7
Not registered/ affiliated (vol.)	7	4	2	18

**Lake Research (D)/Tarrance Group (R) – 7/13/06**

**If Congress does not deal this year with the most pressing problems facing the nation, which of these statements best describes what you think your friends and neighbors will do: they will still vote for their current member of Congress, they will not vote at all, they will vote against their current member of Congress.**

Will still vote for	38%
Not vote at all	13
Will vote against	31
All equally (vol.)	*
None (vol.)	1

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

**(Asked of registered voters) If the 2006 election for U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate in your district?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Republican	35%	79%	3%	24%
Democratic	45	9	88	36

**Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote for George W. Bush, a vote against George W. Bush, or don't you think of your vote this fall as being about George W. Bush's presidency?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Vote for Bush	14%	30%	4%	8%
Vote against Bush	33	11	59	27
Bush not a factor	48	55	31	57

**Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote to help put Democrats in control of Congress, a vote to help keep Republicans in control of Congress, or will your vote be about something else?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Put Democrats in	29%	4%	65%	16%
Keep Republicans in	18	44	2	8
Something else	51	49	32	72

*Congress – Job Approval*

**AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06**

<b>Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Congress is handling its job?</b>	
Approve	27%
Disapprove	68

**FOX News – 7/12/06**

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?</b>				
	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Approve	25%	13%	42%	21%
Disapprove	61	73	43	64
Don't know	14	14	14	15

<b>Do you feel Congress is currently working on issues that are important to most Americans?</b>				
	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Yes	40%	32%	54%	35%
No	53	62	37	59

<b>Do you think the current Congress has gotten more work done this term, less work done or about the same amount of work as is usually accomplished in a congressional term?</b>				
	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
More	3%	2%	6%	3%
Less	38	48	27	39
About the same	50	43	59	49

**Lake Research (D)/Tarrance Group (R) – 7/13/06**

<b>Do you think Congress has been doing a good job at solving problems that are important to you?</b>	
Yes, strongly	12%
Yes	12
No	8
No, strongly	62

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	28%	36%	24%	24%
Disapprove	58	52	63	61

<b>How about the representative in Congress from your district? Do you approve or disapprove of the way your representative is handling his or her job?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	57	65	56	51
Disapprove	27	23	27	31

*Democrats vs. Republicans*

**AP/Ipsos Public Affairs – 7/12/06**

<b>When it comes to handling the economy, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Democrats in Congress are handling that issue?</b>	
Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	19
Leans approve	11
Leans disapprove	15
Somewhat disapprove	19
Strongly disapprove	23

<b>When it comes to handling foreign policy issues and the war on terrorism, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Democrats in Congress are handling that issue?</b>	
Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	14
Leans approve	11
Leans disapprove	17
Somewhat disapprove	20
Strongly disapprove	25

**When it comes to handling the situation in Iraq, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Democrats in Congress are handling that issue?**

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	14
Leans approve	12
Leans disapprove	13
Somewhat disapprove	18
Strongly disapprove	32

**And when it comes to handling the economy, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Republicans in Congress are handling that issue?**

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	16
Leans approve	9
Leans disapprove	11
Somewhat disapprove	18
Strongly disapprove	34

**And when it comes to handling foreign policy issues and the war on terrorism, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Republicans in Congress are handling that issue?**

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	18
Leans approve	10
Leans disapprove	10
Somewhat disapprove	15
Strongly disapprove	29

**And when it comes to handling the situation in Iraq, do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way the Republicans in Congress are handling that issue?**

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	15
Leans approve	7
Leans disapprove	9
Somewhat disapprove	14
Strongly disapprove	38

**FOX News – 7/12/06**

<b>Which political party do you think cares more about the safety and security of the United States: the Democrats or the Republicans? (rotated)</b>				
	All	Dem	GOP	Ind
Democrats care	30%	59%	4%	21%
Republicans care	34	10	73	18
Both (vol.)	17	17	14	21
Neither (vol.)	11	8	5	25

<b>Which political party – the Democrats or the Republicans – do you think would do a better job on each of the following issues?</b>					
	Dem	Rep	(Equal)	(DK)	<i>Advantage</i>
Energy and gas prices	53%	19	12	16	+34D
Health care	52%	23	12	13	+29D
The economy	49%	29	10	12	+20D
Iraq	38%	36	10	16	+2D
Immigration	37%	32	15	17	+5D
Border security	31%	37	16	16	+6R
Terrorism	30%	42	15	13	+12R

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

<b>In general, is your opinion of the Democratic Party favorable or not favorable?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	52%	21%	85%	49%
Not favorable	41	75	11	38

<b>In general, is your opinion of the Republican Party favorable or not favorable?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	43%	85%	11%	37%
Not favorable	51	14	85	52

<b>Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Republican Party	36%	75%	6%	30%
Democratic Party	42	12	77	36
Both (vol.)	1	1	1	2
Neither (vol.)	7	3	7	9

**Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to ensure a strong economy?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Republican Party	36%	71%	10%	31%
Democratic Party	48	20	80	44
Both (vol.)	1	1	1	2
Neither (vol.)	4	2	3	6

**Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to make the right decisions when it comes to dealing with terrorism?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Republican Party	42%	81%	14%	34%
Democratic Party	36	9	66	33
Both (vol.)	4	3	4	6
Neither (vol.)	4	0	5	6

*Other Political Figures*

**CBS News/New York Times – 7/25/06**

**Is your opinion of Dick Cheney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dick Cheney yet to have an opinion?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	20%	44%	4%	13%
Not favorable	44	14	71	44
Undecided	20	24	13	22
Haven't heard enough	16	16	12	20

**Is your opinion of Hillary Rodham Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Rodham Clinton yet to have an opinion?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	32%	10%	56%	29%
Not favorable	39	71	13	34
Undecided	21	13	26	23
Haven't heard enough	8	6	5	13

**Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?**

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	28%	34%	23%	29%
Not favorable	13	17	13	10
Undecided	29	23	34	28
Haven't heard enough	29	27	29	32

<b>Is your opinion of Al Gore favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Al Gore yet to have an opinion?</b>				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	30%	10%	51%	29%
Not favorable	37	66	12	35
Undecided	24	17	27	27
Haven't heard enough	8	8	8	8