



THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER
For The People & The Press

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FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2006 6:00 AM

Democrats Hold Enthusiasm, Engagement Advantage
NOVEMBER TURNOUT MAY BE HIGH

*A Survey Conducted in Association with
The Associated Press*

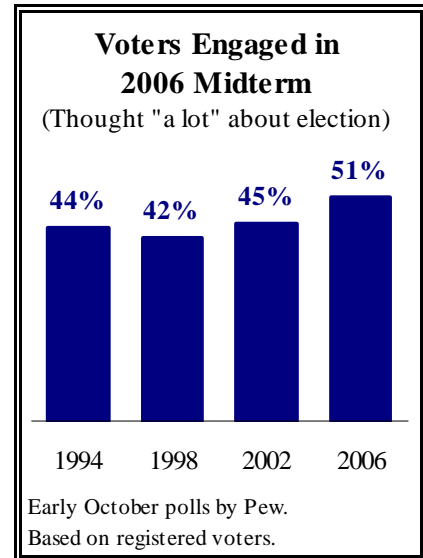
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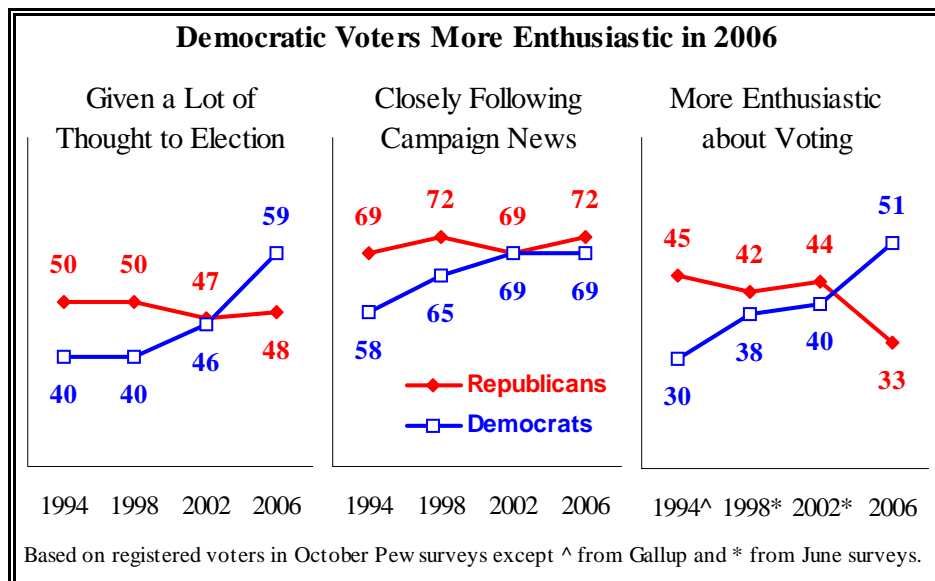
Democrats Hold Enthusiasm, Engagement Advantage NOVEMBER TURNOUT MAY BE HIGH

Turnout in the 2006 midterm election may well be higher than normal, given the level of interest expressed by voters. Today, 51% of voters say they have given a lot of thought to this November's election, up from 45% at this point in 2002 and 42% in early October of 1998. Even in 1994 – a recent high in midterm election turnout – just 44% of voters had thought a lot about the election in early October.

The difference this year is due to record-high levels of Democratic enthusiasm about the election. Currently, 59% of Democratic voters say they have given a lot of thought to this election, up from 46% at this point in the 2002 election. Republicans, by comparison, are no more or less engaged this year than four years ago (48% now, 47% in 2002). Democrats are also far more excited about voting this year, with 51% saying they are more enthusiastic about voting than usual, up from 40% in 2002. Just a third of Republicans say they are more enthusiastic about voting than usual, down from 44% four years ago.



Notably, the ongoing scandal involving former Rep. Mark Foley has not had much of an impact on either the engagement or enthusiasm of Democratic and Republican voters. The Democratic advantages on both dimensions were about the same after Foley resigned as before the congressman



stepped down.

The comparison between the current campaign and the 1994 midterm election, when Republicans won the majority of House votes and picked up more than 50 seats, is particularly telling. In early October 1994, 50% of Republican voters had already given a lot of thought to the election, compared with 40% of Democratic voters. Today, this margin is nearly reversed, as 59% of Democrats have given a lot of thought to the 2006 midterm, compared with 48% of Republicans.

These indications of Democratic engagement suggest that the turnout advantage the GOP has enjoyed in recent elections may not hold this November. Current estimates suggest that Democratic enthusiasm may compensate for some of the demographic factors that often lead to lower Election Day turnout among Democrats.

In Pew's latest survey, conducted in collaboration with the Associated Press Sept. 21-Oct 4 among 1,503 registered voters, the Democrats hold a 51% to 38% edge among registered voters – largely unchanged from surveys conducted over the past year. When the sample is narrowed to likely voters, the Democratic advantage remains at 13 points: 53% of likely voters saying the plan to vote for the Democratic candidate in their district, and 40% for the Republican candidate.

The current survey was in the field for eight days prior to Foley's resignation on Sept. 29, and six days after his resignation. When these two periods are compared there are no substantial differences that suggest the event itself was a turning point.

Before Foley's resignation, 58% of Democratic voters said they had given a lot of

Democrats' Lead as Large Among Likely Voters			
<i>Voting intention among...</i>			
	<u>RVs</u>	<u>LVs</u>	<u>diff</u>
2006	%	%	
Democratic	51	53	+2
Republican	38	40	+2
2002			
Democratic	46	46	0
Republican	42	44	+2
1998			
Democratic	47	46	-1
Republican	40	44	+4
1994			
Democratic	43	43	0
Republican	45	48	+3

1994-2002 surveys conducted the weekend before Election Day.

Democrats' Enthusiasm Advantage Predates Foley				
	Sept 6-10	Sept 21-Oct 4	<i>--Foley--</i>	
<i>Given a lot of thought to election</i>	%	%	<i>Before</i>	<i>After</i>
Republicans	49	48	49	48
Democrats	44	59	58	60
Independents	44	48	42	54
<i>More enthusiastic about voting than usual</i>				
Republicans	35	33	33	33
Democrats	44	51	50	52
Independents	32	34	34	35

Based on registered voters. "Before" Foley's resignation Sept 21-28. "After" resignation Sept 29-Oct 4.

thought to the election, and 50% said they were more enthusiastic about voting than in previous elections. Those numbers were largely unchanged in the days after Foley stepped down. And Republican enthusiasm about voting, while continuing to be lower than among Democrats, did not slip in the wake of the Foley revelations (33% before Foley resigned, 33% after).

Democrats Angry, But Optimistic About Prospects

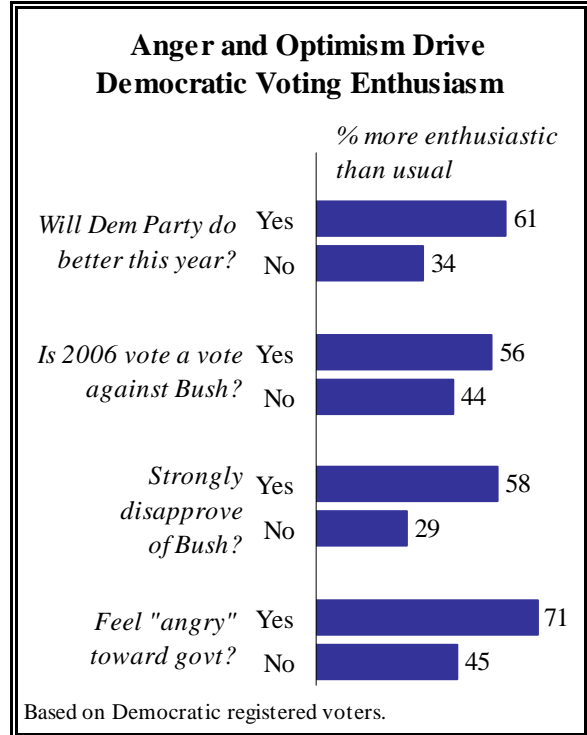
Two clear factors underlie Democratic engagement this year – anger about the current political leadership and optimism about the party’s chances. Across every question about politics and government, Democrats express high levels of dissatisfaction, especially with President Bush. Fully 77% of Democratic voters *very strongly* disapprove of the job Bush is doing as president, and nearly two-thirds (63%) say they consider their vote this fall as a vote against Bush.

Democratic frustration goes beyond just the President. Most Democratic voters (57%) say this Congress has accomplished less than other recent Congresses, and the vast majority expressing this opinion say Republican leaders are to blame (88%). And when asked whether they are “angry,” “frustrated,” or “basically content” with government these days, 28% of Democratic voters say they are angry. This is up from 20% in 2004 and just 11% in 2000. More important, in 2000 there was no partisan divide in feelings of anger toward government, while today four times as many Democrats as Republicans say they are angry at government.

This anger plays a large role in the high level of enthusiasm among Democratic voters. Fully 71% of Democratic voters who describe themselves as “angry” at government say they are

<i>Feeling about government</i>	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Angry	19	7	28	20
Frustrated	57	48	60	63
Content	19	41	7	12
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Congress has accomplished</i>				
Less than usual	41	20	57	44
Same amount	47	64	37	44
More than usual	6	11	2	6
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Bush job approval</i>				
Strongly approve	24	58	4	17
Approve	13	22	4	14
Disapprove	9	4	10	14
Strongly disapprove	45	10	77	41
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100

Based on registered voters.



more enthusiastic about voting this year, compared with 45% of those who are “frustrated” or “basically content” with government. Similarly, Democrats who register strong disapproval of the president are far more likely to be eager to vote than those with less strong views (58% vs. 29% enthusiastic). And 56% of Democrats who say their congressional vote is a vote against the president express high enthusiasm about 2006, compared with just 44% who say Bush is not a factor in their vote.

Overall, anger is a much stronger factor in turnout for Democrats than it is for Republicans and independents. When six questions measuring various types of dissatisfaction and frustration with government are combined into an index, voters can be scored as to how angry they are relative to others. Fully 63% of Democrats who score high on this index say they are more motivated to vote this year than usual – this compares with just 44% of “angry” Republicans and 42% of “angry” independents

Another factor driving up Democratic enthusiasm is optimism about the party’s prospects in this midterm. Nearly two-thirds of Democrats (65%) say they think the party will do better in 2006 than it has in other recent elections – 28% say they will do about as well as they have, and just 2% see the party doing worse than usual this year. And the more optimistic Democrats are, the more engaged they are – 61% of those who think the party will do better are more enthusiastic about voting than usual, compared with just 37% of those who do not predict Democratic gains this fall. Republicans’ expectations are more modest for the upcoming elections: More than half of Republican voters (57%) say their party will do about the same as in recent elections; 22% think the party will fare worse; and just 15% of Republicans think the GOP will do better than in recent elections.

Anger Motivates Democrats More than Others			
<i>Political “Anger”*</i>	<i>Percent More Enthusiastic to Vote</i>		
	Repub- <u>licans</u>	Indepen- <u>dents</u>	Demo- <u>crats</u>
Low	30	28	27
Moderate	33	32	43
High	44	42	63

* Scale based on six questions gauging frustration with the political system and current situation in the country.
Based on registered voters.

Ballot Measures' Modest Impact

So far, voter awareness of ballot issues in their state is somewhat lower this year than in 2004. Just 39% of voters in states with one or more statewide referenda, initiatives or constitutional amendments on the ballot are aware that this is the case. In late October 2004, 56% of voters in states with ballot measures were aware that these measures were before the voters. The 2004 survey, however, was conducted closer to Election Day than the current survey, and these figures may increase in the coming weeks.

One thing that seems clear is that some of the key issues that were thought to have the potential to mobilize turnout have not yet registered in voters' minds. Just 13% of voters in the eight states where gay marriage initiatives or amendments are on the ballot are aware that they will be able to vote on this issue – down from 26% in states with similar ballot measures two years ago. And only 3% of voters in the six states with minimum wage ballot measures are aware that this will be on the ballot.

Few Aware of Key Ballot Issues*		
	Voters nationwide	Voters in states with... Any issue on ballot
<i>Aware of any ballot issues</i>	%	%
2006	36	39
2004	42	56
<i>Know gay marriage is on ballot</i>		Gay marriage on ballot
2006	2	13
2004	6	26
<i>Know minimum wage is on ballot</i>		Minimum wage on ballot
2006	1	3

* Stateline.org Interactive Elections Guide provides an overview of what initiatives appear on the ballot in each state.. Alaska and Hawaii not surveyed.

Confidence in Vote Counts

Most voters (58%) say they are very confident that their votes will be accurately counted in the upcoming election. Another 29% say they are somewhat confident their votes will be counted correctly. Only about one-in-ten voters (12%) say they are not too confident or not at all confident their votes will accurately counted.

Attitudes on this issue have not changed much since the 2004 presidential campaign. In mid-October of 2004, 62% of voters expressed a high level of confidence their votes would be accurately counted, while 26% said they were somewhat confident their vote would be accurately counted.

There continues to be a large partisan gap in confidence that votes will be counted correctly in November; 79% of Republicans express a high degree of confidence their votes will be accurately counted, compared with 45% of Democrats.

Notably, African American voters express much more skepticism their votes will be accurately counted than they did in the fall of 2004. Just 30% say they are very confident their votes will be accurately counted, down from 47% two years ago. The percentage of black voters who express little or no confidence in vote-counting procedures has approximately doubled – from 15% to 29%. More than three times as many blacks as whites now say they have little or no confidence their vote will be accurately tallied (29% vs. 8%).

Wide Gaps in Confidence about Accurate Vote Tally

Confident your vote will be accurately counted?

	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not too/</u> <u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%	%
Total	58	29	12	1=100
White	63	28	8	1=100
Black	30	37	29	4=100
Men	63	24	12	1=100
Women	53	33	12	2=100
18-29	49	36	15	0=100
30-49	61	26	11	2=100
50-64	60	29	11	*=100
65+	55	30	11	4=100
Republican	79	17	3	1=100
Democrat	45	36	16	3=100
Independent	52	32	15	1=100

Based on registered voters.

Blacks' Confidence in Accurate Vote Count Declines

	<u>Oct</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Oct</u> <u>2006</u>
<i>Confident your vote will be accurately counted?</i>	%	%
Very	47	30
Somewhat	36	37
Not too	11	24
Not at all	4	5
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
	(N=120)	(N=161)

Based on registered voters.

New Voting Technology

About two-thirds of voters (68%) say they have heard that states are using new technology at polling places, which changes the way votes are cast and counted. Three-in-ten say it makes things better, compared with 11% who say it makes things worse. However, a relatively large minority of voters say it does not make much difference, or offer no opinion (32% combined).

There is somewhat less awareness of the new technology than there was two years ago, during the presidential campaign. However, the balance of opinion about the new technology is a bit more positive than it was two years ago.

	Oct 2004	Oct 2006
	%	%
Heard of new voting technology	72	68
<i>Changes in voting ...</i>		
Make things better	24	30
Make things worse	12	11
Don't matter much/DK	36	27
Have not heard	27	32
DK/refused	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
	100	100

Based on registered voters

Republicans are more bullish about the changes in the way votes are cast and counted than are either Democrats or independents. Roughly four-in-ten Republican voters (41%) say it will make things better; that compares with 28% of independent voters and 25% of Democratic voters.

Vote by Mail?

The public decisively rejects the idea of scrapping the current voting system with voting by mail, although most Americans are open to giving people the option of voting by mail. Nearly two-thirds (64%) say they oppose replacing voting booths with voting by mail, and 38% say they strongly oppose such a change. However, 55% favor allowing people to vote by mail prior to the election, instead of in a voting booth on Election Day.

	<i>Replace</i> voting booths w/ vote by mail	<i>Allow</i> people to vote by mail
	%	%
Strongly favor	11	22
Favor	17	33
Oppose	26	23
Strongly oppose	38	17
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100

Roughly four-in-ten people in the West (41%) support replacing traditional methods of casting ballots with voting by mail. That compares with just a quarter of residents of the South and Midwest, and 21% of those in the East. Oregon is the only state in the U.S. where all ballots are cast by mail.

There is fairly broad support for allowing – but not requiring – people to vote through the mail before the election. However, roughly half of residents of the Northeast oppose (49%) the option of early voting by mail, while just 42% support this option. By contrast, half of those in the South,

and large majorities in the West (67%) and Midwest (61%) favor allowing people to vote by mail before the election instead of in a voting booth on Election Day.

One-in-Four Seniors Plan to Vote Early

The vast majority of registered voters (77%) say they will probably vote at their polling place on Election Day, but 14% plan to vote by mail or absentee ballot before Nov. 7. Early voting is widespread among older Americans and in the West. Just under a quarter (24%) of voters age 65 and older say they intend to cast their midterm vote before election day this year. By comparison, just 5% of registered voters under age 30 intend to vote early.

About a third of voters in the West (34%) say they will cast their vote before Election Day, while 56% intend to vote at their polling place on Nov. 7. Early voting is far less common in other parts of the country, with just 6% of voters in the Northeast, 9% in the South, and 12% in the Midwest saying they plan to vote early.

Part of this regional difference is due to the fact that every state in the West allows no-excuse early voting, and Oregon requires all voters to cast their ballots by mail. In other regions, many states require voters to have a legitimate excuse to cast their ballot prior to Election Day. However, even when access to early voting is readily available, it is far less popular in the East, Midwest and South than it is in the West. Setting aside Oregon, 32% of Westerners say they plan to vote before Election Day. But in states outside the West that allow no-excuse early voting either by mail or in-person, just 12% say they plan to take advantage of this opportunity.

	<i>Plan to vote...</i>		<i>Don't plan to</i>	
	<i>Before</i>	<i>On Elect.</i>	<i>vote</i>	<i>DK</i>
	<u>Nov 7</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>vote</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%	%
All RVs	14	77	4	5=100
18-29	5	80	8	7=100
30-49	13	79	4	4=100
50-64	14	80	2	4=100
65+	24	68	2	6=100
Northeast	6	84	7	3=100
South	9	83	3	5=100
Midwest	12	81	3	4=100
West	34	56	3	7=100
<i>Early voting is allowed without an excuse in state?</i>				
Yes*	19	72	3	6=100
No	6	87	4	3=100
* Source: electionline.org , includes AR AZ CA CO FL GA IA ID IL IN KS LA MD ME MT NC ND NE NJ NM NV OH OK OR SD TN TX UT VT WA WI WV WY.				

Campaign Contacts

About half of voters (49%) say they have been contacted by a candidate or a political group in the past few months, encouraging them to vote in a particular way. Most of these voters – 38% overall – say they have been contacted over the phone, compared with 15% who report being contacted by email, and 14% who say they were contacted in person.

<i>Contacted by campaigns</i>	<u>Total</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %
...Over the phone	38	45	38	33
...In person	14	14	15	13
...By e-mail	15	15	19	13
Any contact	49	55	50	45

Based on registered voters

Somewhat more Republican voters (55%) than Democratic (50%) or independent voters (45%) say they have been contacted by a candidate or political group, either by phone, email, or in person. In addition, highly-educated, high-income voters are much more likely than others to say they have been contacted by a campaign or political group. Nearly half of voters with college educations (49%) say they been contacted by phone, compared with just 31% of voters with high school educations.

For the most part, Republican voters say they have been contacted by GOP candidates, while Democratic voters say they have been contacted by candidates from their party. Somewhat more independent voters say they have been contacted by Democratic than Republican candidates (13% vs. 8%), while 11% say they have contacted by candidates from both parties.

Most Have Seen or Heard Political Ads

With still about a month to go until Election Day, 75% of Americans say they have seen or heard commercials for candidates running for office. Nearly four-in-ten (37%) say they have seen or heard a lot of advertisements, 18% some, and 20% have seen or heard just a few campaign ads.

There are only modest regional variations in the percentages who report seeing or hearing political commercials: 80% in the Midwest, 78% in the Northeast, 73% in the South and 71% in the West say they have seen or heard such ads. However, nearly half of residents of the Midwest (48%) say they have seen or heard a lot of campaign commercials, much more than in other regions (36% Northeast, 33% South, 30% West).

<i>Seen or heard any campaign commercials?</i>	%
Yes	75
A lot	37
Some	18
Just a few	20
No	24
Don't know	<u>1</u>
	100

PROFILE OF REGISTERED AND LIKELY VOTERS
(2002, 2004 and 2006)

	- Nov 2002 -		- Nov 2004 -		- Oct 2006 -	
	<u>RV</u>	<u>LV</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>LV</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>LV</u>
<i>Sex</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Male	46	46	47	47	48	50
Female	<u>54</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>50</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Race</i>						
White	83	85	81	83	78	81
Black	11	10	10	9	12	10
Hispanic†	7	6	9	7	8	7
<i>Age</i>						
Under 30	14	8	19	14	16	12
30-49	41	38	38	38	39	38
50-64	25	30	24	26	26	29
65+	19	23	18	20	18	20
<i>Education</i>						
College Grad.	29	32	30	34	30	35
Some College	26	27	26	26	25	26
High School Grad	34	32	35	32	34	32
<H.S. Grad.	10	7	9	7	10	6
<i>Family Income</i>						
\$75,000+	19	23	23	26	29	32
\$50,000-\$74,999	16	18	15	16	15	15
\$30,000-\$49,999	23	21	21	20	20	21
\$20,000-\$29,999	10	8	11	10	9	9
<\$20,000	16	14	14	12	14	12
<i>Religious Affiliation</i>						
Total White Protestant	47	49	43	45	43	45
White Evangelical Protest.	23	24	22	23	22	23
White mainline Protest.	24	25	21	22	21	22
White Catholic	19	20	17	18	17	18
Secular	9	7	13	11	10	9
<i>Party ID</i>						
Republican	33	35	33	37	30	33
Democrat	35	36	35	35	35	38
Independent	26	22	26	23	31	28
<i>Marital Status</i>						
Married	60	66	57	61	60	64
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	24	23	22	22	21	20
Never Married	16	10	20	16	18	16
<i>Parental Status</i>						
Parent	35	33	35	34	39	36
Non-Parent	65	67	65	65	61	64

† The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 1,804 adults, 18 years of age or older, from September 21 to October 4, 2006. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on registered voters (N=1503), the sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on Form 1 (N=890) and Form 2 (N=914) the sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points. If based on Form 1 or Form 2 registered voters only (Form 1 N=754 or Form 2 N=749), the sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points. For results based on likely voters (N=976) the sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

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

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

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

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

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Richard Morin, Senior Editor
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
EARLY OCTOBER 2006 TURNOUT SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
September 21 - October 4, 2006
N=1804**

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=890]:

Q.1F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	App- <u>rove</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>		App- <u>rove</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
Early October, 2006	37	53	10=100	Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100
Early 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	April 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	March 20-24, 2003	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

IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (1,2 IN Q.1F1) ASK:

Q.1F1a Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

BASED ON FORM 1 ONLY [N=890]:

	April <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>	March <u>2005</u>	Dec <u>2004</u>	Nov <u>2003</u>	Sept <u>2003</u>	June <u>2002</u>	April <u>2001</u>
37 Approve	35	38	49	48	50	55	70	56
23 Very strongly	23	26	32	34	34	35	46	34
13 Not so strongly	11	11	16	12	14	18	21	20
1 Don't know (VOL)	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	2
53 Disapprove	55	54	46	44	40	36	20	27
43 Very strongly	45	42	36	35	30	27	8	18
9 Not so strongly	10	11	10	8	9	9	12	9
1 Don't know (VOL)	*	1	*	1	1	*	0	*
<u>10</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=914]:

Q.2F2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	No <u>Opinion</u>
Early October, 2006	30	63	7=100
July, 2006	30	65	5=100
May, 2006 ¹	29	65	6=100
March, 2006	32	63	5=100
January, 2006	34	61	5=100
Late November, 2005	34	59	7=100
Early October, 2005	29	65	6=100
July, 2005	35	58	7=100
Late May, 2005	39	57	4=100
February, 2005	38	56	6=100
January, 2005	40	54	6=100
December, 2004	39	54	7=100
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6=100
July, 2004	38	55	7=100
May, 2004	33	61	6=100
Late February, 2004	39	55	6=100
Early January, 2004	45	48	7=100
December, 2003	44	47	9=100
October, 2003	38	56	6=100
August, 2003	40	53	7=100
April, 2003 ²	50	41	9=100
January, 2003	44	50	6=100
November, 2002	41	48	11=100
September, 2002	41	55	4=100
Late August, 2002	47	44	9=100

1 The September 2002 and May 2006 trends are from a Pew Global Attitudes Project survey.

2 Asked April 8, 2003 only; N=395.

Q.2F2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
May, 2002	44	44	12=100
March, 2002	50	40	10=100
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100
June, 2001	43	52	5=100
March, 2001	47	45	8=100
February, 2001	46	43	11=100
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	5=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
Late February, 1991 (Gallup)	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

IF ANSWER GIVEN (1,2 IN Q.2F2) ASK:

Q.2F2a Would you say you are very [satisfied/dissatisfied] or just somewhat [satisfied/dissatisfied]?

BASED ON FORM 2 ONLY [N=914]:

30 Satisfied
 8 Very
 22 Somewhat
 * Don't know/Refused
 63 Dissatisfied
 36 Very
 26 Somewhat
 1 Don't know/Refused
 7 No Opinion
 100

ASK ALL:

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

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

	Quite <u>A lot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Some</u>	Only a <u>Little</u>	None/DK/ <u>Refused</u>
Early October, 2006	51	4	40	5=100
Early 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
Gallup: October, 1990 ³	43	7	46	4=100
Gallup: October, 1982	29	22	37	12=100
Gallup: October, 1978	23	22	39	17=100
Gallup: September, 1978	21	18	44	18=100

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN REGIST ASK:

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

82 Yes, registered
 78 Absolutely certain
 3 Chance registration has lapsed
 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 18 No, not registered
 * Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

3 Gallup trends based on total respondents.

ASK ALL:

CAMPNII How closely have you followed news about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district?
Have you followed it very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

	Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/ Ref.
Early October, 2006	23	43	23	10	1=100
Early November, 2002	27	46	18	9	*=100
Early October, 2002	21	46	22	10	1=100
Late October, 1998	26	45	20	9	*=100
Early October, 1998	21	43	24	11	1=100
November, 1994	23	49	21	7	*=100
Late October, 1994	18	43	28	10	1=100

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

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		Early		Mid- Early			Late		Mid- Early		Late		Early		Late	
		Sept	Nov	Oct	Sept	Aug	Nov	Nov	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Sept
		2006	2004	2004	2004	2004	2002	2000	2000	2000	2000	1998	1998	1996	1996	1994
90	Yes	92	82	79	83	88	86	83	81	82	84	86	87	85	85	91
10	No	8	18	21	17	12	14	17	19	18	16	14	13	15	15	9
0	Don't know/Ref.	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

WHERE Do you happen to know where people in your neighborhood go to vote?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		Nov			Late		Early		Gallup			
		2004	2002	2000	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Oct	Nov	Nov	Oct
		2004	2002	2000	1998	1998	1996	1996	1994	1988	1988	1988
88	Yes — gives answer	85	88	84	90	87	88	85	93	89	86	86
12	No/Don't know/Ref./No Answer	15	12	16	10	13	12	15	7	11	14	14
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

	(VOL.)						(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Always	Nearly Always	Part of The time	Seldom	Never Vote	Other		
Early October, 2006	47	36	10	3	2	1	1=100	
Early September, 2006	56	28	9	6	1	*	*=100	
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	

OFTVOTE CONTINUED...

	(VOL.)						
	<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>
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
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

NO QUESTIONS 3 THROUGH 9

ASK Q.10 THROUGH Q.17 OF REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY (REGICERT=1):

Thinking about this year's election...

Q.10 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.10, ASK:

Q.10a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

	<u>Rep/ Lean Rep</u>	<u>Dem/ Lean Dem</u>	<u>Other/ Undecided</u>
Early October, 2006	38	51	11=100
Early 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

Q.10/10 CONTINUED...	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
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

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' OR '2' IN Q.10 ASK:

Q.10b Do you support the (INSERT PARTY SELECTED IN Q.10: Democratic/Republican) candidate strongly or only moderately?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		<u>Early Nov 2002</u>	<u>Early Nov 2000</u>	<u>Late Oct 1998</u>	<u>Nov 1996</u>	<u>Nov 1994</u>
38	Republican/Lean Rep	42	42	40	41	45
20	Strongly	21	20	19	18	19
17	Moderately/Lean	20	22	21	23	26
1	Don't know/Refused	1	*	--	*	--
51	Democrat/Lean Dem	46	48	47	48	43
26	Strongly	22	23	24	22	17
24	Moderately/Lean	23	24	23	25	26
1	Don't know/Refused	1	1	--	1	--
<u>11</u>	Other/Undecided (VOL.)	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:

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

IF YES IN PLANTO1, ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

PLANTO2F2 How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain, or not certain?

BASED ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=749]:

	Yes, Plan To Vote	Absolutely Certain	Fairly Certain	Not Certain	No, Don't Plan To	Don't know/ Refused
Early October, 2006	93	75	17	1	4	3=100
Early September, 2006	92	--	--	--	5	3=100
November, 2004	97	--	--	--	2	1=100
Mid-October, 2004 ⁴	98	--	--	--	1	1=100
Early October, 2004	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
Early September, 2004	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
<i>September 11-14</i>	97	89	7	1	2	1=100
<i>September 8-10</i>	99	93	6	*	1	*=100
August, 2004	98	89	8	1	2	*=100
June, 2004	96	85	10	1	2	2=100
Early November, 2002 ⁵	90	--	--	--	8	2=100
Early October, 2002	95	--	--	--	3	2=100
Early November, 2000	96	--	--	--	3	1=100
Late October, 2000	97	--	--	--	2	1=100
Mid-October, 2000	96	--	--	--	2	2=100
Early October, 2000	97	87	9	1	2	1=100
September, 2000	95	84	10	1	3	2=100
June, 2000	95	84	10	1	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	75	17	1	3	4=100
June, 1998	95	74	19	2	3	2=100
November, 1996	96	--	--	--	2	2=100
October, 1996	98	87	10	1	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	98	89	8	1	1	1=100
Early September, 1996	96	83	11	2	2	2=100
July, 1996	95	82	12	1	3	2=100
June, 1996	96	84	11	1	2	2=100
November, 1994	93	--	--	--	5	2=100
October, 1994	95	--	--	--	3	2=100
October, 1992	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
September, 1992	98	85	11	2	1	1=100
August, 1992	97	89	8	*	1	2=100
June, 1992	97	88	8	1	1	2=100
Gallup: November, 1988	97	87	9	1	2	1=100
October, 1988	98	--	--	--	1	1=100

4 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.

5 In Early November 2002, Early 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?" In Early November 2002 "Yes, Plan to Vote" category includes people who volunteered that they already voted.

ASK FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY (REGICERT=1):

SCALE10F1 I'd like you to rate your chances of voting in November on a scale of 10 to 1. If TEN represents a person who DEFINITELY will vote and ONE represents a person who definitely will NOT vote, where on this scale of ten to one would you place yourself?

BASED ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=754]:

	Definitely will vote										Definitely will not vote	DK/Ref
	<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>		
Early October, 2006	68	10	9	4	1	4	*	1	*	2	1=100	
Early September, 2006	67	9	9	2	2	5	1	1	1	2	1=100	
November, 2004 ⁶	87	4	3	1	1	1	*	*	*	2	1=100	
Mid-October, 2004	87	4	3	1	1	1	*	*	*	2	1=100	
Early November, 2002 ⁷	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	

IF YES IN PLANTO1, ASK:

PLANTO3 In the congressional election this fall, do you plan to vote BEFORE Election Day, that is through the mail or with an absentee ballot, OR will you probably vote at your polling place ON Election Day?⁸

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

	Nov <u>2004</u>	Mid- Oct <u>2004</u>	Early Sept <u>2004</u>	June <u>2004</u>
14 Before Election Day/By Mail/Absentee	9	16	13	19
77 Will vote at polling place on Election Day	75	78	84	77
2 Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	*
* Already voted (VOL.) ⁹ (IN PLANTO1)	13	3	*	n/a
<u>7</u> Don't plan to vote/Don't know (IN PLANTO1)	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
100	100	100	100	100

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

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

8 In November 2004, the question wording did not include the statement, "In the congressional election this fall..." In Mid-October 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: "In the presidential election this fall..."

9 In Mid-October 2004, "or have you already cast your vote" was added to the question wording, but had been a volunteer option in the previous month.

IF YES IN PLANTO1, ASK:

FIRST Will this election be the FIRST time that you have voted, or have you voted before?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		Mid- Nov <u>2004</u>	Oct <u>2004</u> ¹⁰
5	First time	13	11
88	Have voted before	87	89
0	Don't Know/Refused	*	*
*	Already Voted (3 IN PLANTO1)	--	--
<u>7</u>	Don't plan to vote/Don't know (2, 9 IN PLANTO1)	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
100		100	100

QUESTIONS 11 THROUGH 14 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

Q.15 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 ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

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

QUESTIONS 16 THROUGH 30 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

Q.31 Here are a few ways that candidates and political groups contact voters to encourage them to vote a particular way. Thinking just about the past few months, have you been contacted [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] by any candidates or political groups? Have you been contacted [NEXT ITEM]?

		(VOL.)		
		Yes	No	DK/ Ref
a.	Over the phone			
	General Public	33	66	1=100
	Registered Voters	38	61	1=100 (N=1503)
b.	In person by someone coming to your door			
	General Public	12	88	*=100
	Registered Voters	14	86	*=100 (N=1503)
c.	By e-mail			
	General Public	13	85	2=100
	Registered Voters	15	83	2=100 (N=1503)

10 In Mid-October 2004, the question was asked as part of a series of items about whether they applied to the respondent.

IF YES TO ANY (1 IN Q.31a, Q.31b OR Q.31c), ASK:

Q.32 When you were contacted, were you urged to vote for Democratic candidates OR Republican candidates?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

49	Yes, contacted (NET)
14	Democrats
13	Republicans
2	Other (VOL.)
11	Both (VOL.)
9	Don't know/Refused
<u>51</u>	Not contacted/DK/Refused
100	

NO QUESTION 33

IF REGISTERED TO VOTE (REGICERT=1), ASK:

Q.34 How confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted in the upcoming election? [READ]

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		Mid-Oct <u>2004</u>
58	Very confident	62
29	Somewhat confident	26
9	Not too confident	7
3	Not at all confident	4
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

IF NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE (REGIST=2,9 OR REGICERT=2,9), ASK:

Q.35 If you were to vote this November, how confident are you that votes would be accurately counted? [READ]

BASED ON NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE [N=301]:

27	Very confident
37	Somewhat confident
17	Not too confident
15	Not at all confident
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.36 Have you heard anything about some states using new technology at polling places that changes the way people cast their votes and how votes are recorded, or haven't you heard about this?

IF HEARD (1 IN Q.36) ASK:

Q.37 Do you think these changes make things better, make things worse, or do not make much difference in how accurately votes are counted?

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1503]:

		Mid-Oct <u>2004</u> ¹¹
68	Yes, heard	72
30	Make things better	24
11	Make things worse	12
21	Not make much difference	27
6	Don't know/Refused	9
32	No, have not heard	27
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

NO QUESTION 38

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=890]:

Q.39F1 Some states are discussing an election system in which all residents cast their vote through the mail in the weeks leading up to election day, rather than going to a polling place to vote in an election booth. Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose replacing voting booths with voting by mail?

11	Strongly favor
17	Favor
26	Oppose
38	Strongly oppose
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=914]:

Q.40F2 Some states are using an election system in which residents are allowed to cast their vote through the mail in the weeks leading up to election day if they want to. Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose allowing people to vote by mail before election day instead of in a voting booth on election day?

22	Strongly favor
33	Favor
23	Oppose
17	Strongly oppose
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

11 In Mid-October 2004, Q.36 was worded: "Have you heard anything about some states using new technology to change how people cast their votes and the way the votes are counted in this year's election, or haven't you heard about this?" In Mid-October 2004, Q.37 was worded: "Do you think these changes will make things better, make things worse, or not make much difference in how accurately votes are counted?"

ASK ALL:

Q.41 From what you have heard or read, will voters in your state this November be voting on any ballot initiatives, referendums, or state constitutional amendments, or not?

		<i>Based on Registered Voters</i>	
		Early Oct	Mid-Oct
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2004</u>
33	Yes	36	42
27	No	28	31
<u>40</u>	Don't know/Ref	<u>36</u>	<u>27</u>
100		100	100
		(N=1503)	

IF 'YES' (1 IN Q.41) ASK:

Q.42 Can you think of any particular issues on the ballot that are up for a vote in your state? [OPEN-END, PRECODED RESPONSES BELOW, DO NOT READ. ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SAID "YES" IN Q.41 [N=551]:

		Mid-Oct
		<u>2004</u>
11	Taxes	7
8	Education/Schools/school bonds	9
5	Gay marriage / gay rights	15
4	Immigration issues	2
3	Energy/Gas/Oil/Drilling	--
3	Cigarettes/Smoking	--
	Property rights / Eminent domain /Private property/	
3	Government taking land	--
3	Gambling / lottery / casinos	20
3	Other Bond issues / local development	4
3	Health care	2
3	Minimum wage	--
2	Stem cell research	2
1	Transportation	2
1	Environment issues	3
1	Politicians/elections	2
12	Other (VOL.)	15
46	No / Don't know / No others (VOL.)	37

IF 'YES' (1 IN Q.41) ASK:

Q.43 How interested are you in the ballot issues in your state this year? [READ]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SAID "YES" IN Q.41 [N=551]:

		Mid-Oct
		<u>2004</u>
42	Very interested	41
42	Fairly interested	45
12	Not too interested	11
2	Not at all interested	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

ASK ALL:

Q.44 We're interested in different ways people hear about or talk about politics. How often does the subject of politics come up [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? [READ RESPONSE OPTIONS] How about [NEXT ITEM]?

		<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Hardly Ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>(VOL.) Does not Apply</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/ Ref</u>
a.	At work	19	24	19	16	21	1=100
b.	At your church or place of worship	8	20	27	28	15	2=100
c.	In conversations with friends or family	33	37	21	9	*	*=100

Q.45 So far, have you seen or heard any campaign commercials for candidates running for office? [IF YES: Have you seen a lot of commercials, some, or just a few?]

75	Yes, have seen campaign commercials
37	Yes, a lot
18	Yes, some
20	Yes, just a few
24	No, haven't seen any campaign commercials
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

Q.46 Please tell me if you have ever done any of the things I mention, or not. (First,) Have you EVER... (INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; IF YES ASK: Thinking ONLY ABOUT THE LAST 12 MONTHS, that is since September of 2005, have you... (INSERT ITEM) [FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS SIMPLIFY TO "And have you done that in the last 12 months or not"]?

	<u>TOTAL</u>	----- Yes, Done This -----		<u>No</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>	
		<u>Within last year</u>	<u>Not within last year</u>			
a.	Contributed money to a candidate running for public office	26	10	16	74	*=100
	Early January, 2004	20	8	12	80	*=100
	January, 2000	24	8	16	75	1=100
	June, 1993	19	8	11	80	1=100
b.	Contacted any elected official	38	18	20	61	1=100
	Early January, 2004	28	14	14	72	*=100
	January, 2000	41	19	22	59	*=100
c.	Signed or circulated a petition	43	17	26	56	1=100
	June, 1992	53	--	--	47	*=100
d.	Attended a campaign event	29	7	22	71	*=100
	Early January, 2004	19	5	14	81	*=100

QUESTIONS 47 THROUGH 62 IN PREVIOUS RELEASE

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No <u>Preference</u>	(VOL.) Other <u>Party</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
Early October, 2006	27	34	33	3	*	3=100
Early 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
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:

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

	Early					Late													
	Sep	Dec	Dec	Jul	Aug	Sep	Sep	Aug	Nov	Oct	Apr	Oct	Jul	Jun	May	Feb	May	Jan	May
15 Strong	<u>06</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>
12 Not Strong/DK	17	16	18	17	14	14	10	11	11	11	15	16	13	11	13	15	13	12	11
27%	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>
	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:

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

	Early					Late													
	Sep	Dec	Dec	Jul	Aug	Sep	Sep	Aug	Nov	Oct	Apr	Oct	Jul	Jun	May	Feb	May	Jan	May
19 Strong	<u>06</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>
15 Not strong/DK	18	20	19	20	15	19	15	14	14	14	18	15	14	16	17	19	19	18	18
34%	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
	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>
Early October, 2006	12	15	12=39%
Early 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):

Q.63 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?

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/LEAN REPUBLICAN [N=740]:

		Early			
		Sept	June	Feb	Dec
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
16	Better	23	19	23	17
21	Worse	20	18	17	20
56	About the same	52	58	56	55
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100	100

ASK IF DEMOCRAT OR LEAN DEMOCRAT (2 IN PARTY OR 2 IN PARTYLN):

Q.64 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?

BASED ON DEMOCRAT/LEAN DEMOCRAT [N=858]:

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