



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS AND 2008 CAMPAIGN
 July 9th - 17th, 2007

The American public continues to express disapproval with both Congress and President George W. Bush: both receive the same low (29%) overall job approval ratings. Americans' displeasure isn't reserved for just one party, either: majorities say they're disappointed with the Democrats and the Republicans in Congress.

Congress' job approval stands at just 29% - matching both the President's rating and that of the previous Congress, before the November 2006 midterm elections.

CONGRESS JOB APPROVAL

	Now	6/2007	1/2007	10/2006
Approve	29%	27%	33%	29%
Disapprove	59	60	49	56

A majority of Republicans (70%), Independents (59%), and even Democrats (51%) all disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job.

When asked to evaluate members of Congress by party, most Americans say they are disappointed with both the Democrats and the Republicans in Congress - though more are disappointed with the Republicans.

VIEWS OF THE PARTIES IN CONGRESS

	Congressional Democrats	Congressional Republicans
Pleased	28%	21%
Disappointed	58	68

Slightly more than half of Democrats (51%) say they are pleased with their own party's members in Congress. But when Republicans are asked about the Republicans in Congress, 52% say they are disappointed.

President Bush's job approval rating is now at 29%, with more than twice as many Americans disapproving of the way he is handling his job as President. His approval rating reached an all-time low of 27% last month, and it has hovered around 30% since the beginning of the year.

BUSH'S JOB APPROVAL

	Now	6/2007	5/2007	3/2007	1/2007
Approve	29%	27%	30%	34%	28%
Disapprove	64	65	63	58	64

Republicans and conservatives approve of the way the President is handling his job. 64% of Republicans approve, about the same as last month. Democrats, Independents, liberals, and moderates disapprove.

THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL RACE: REPUBLICANS

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani continues his status as the most-preferred Presidential nominee among Republican primary voters, even when former Senator (and potential candidate) Fred Thompson is included in the list of choices.

Thompson's entry would likely shake up this race. Although unannounced, Thompson is already the second most-preferred candidate, behind Giuliani and ahead of John McCain and Mitt Romney. This was also the case last month.

John McCain's support has fallen over the same period, after a much-publicized campaign shakeup.

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS REP NOMINEE?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	6/2007
Giuliani	33%	34%
Thompson	25	22
McCain	15	21
Romney	8	6
Someone else/none	11	7

Conservatives prefer Thompson over Giuliani. Among moderates, though, Giuliani outpaces Thompson and the rest of the choices.

Those preferring Thompson are more likely than Giuliani's backers to volunteer immigration as the nation's number one problem, while Giuliani's backers are more apt to cite terrorism.

When Fred Thompson's name is not offered among the choices in a question about nomination preference, this poll finds a substantial number of Republican primary voters (26%) wanting "someone else" to be the nominee - that number has grown in the last month and is now the second-most chosen option in the question, even higher than support for either McCain or Romney. In this question, too, McCain's backing is down.

WITHOUT FRED THOMPSON:

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS REP NOMINEE?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	6/2007	5/2007
Giuliani	37%	42%	36%
McCain	19	26	22
Romney	10	8	15
Someone else/none	26	19	21

One reason that non-candidate Fred Thompson may generate such interest among Republicans is that most of the party's primary voters continue to be unsatisfied with their current crop of candidates. Like last month, six in ten want more choices.

Thompson remains, however, a much unknown quantity among Republican primary voters: more than six in ten have no opinion of him or haven't heard enough about him yet to have one.

Giuliani is better known and elicits high favorable ratings from those who know him. John McCain's unfavorable ratings are up substantially from a few weeks ago.

OPINION OF ...								
(Among Republican Primary Voters)								
	McCain		Giuliani		Romney		Thompson	
	Now	6/07	Now	6/07	Now	6/07	Now	6/07
Favorable	39%	35%	55%	52%	22%	24%	32%	33%
Not favorable	31	19	13	12	9	11	4	3
Undecided/ Haven't heard	30	45	31	36	69	64	64	62

THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL RACE: DEMOCRATS

Unlike their Republican counterparts, Democratic primary voters are satisfied with their choices: 61% are, and 37% are not. This is the same as last month.

SATISFIED WITH YOUR PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS?						
	Republican Primary Voters			Democratic Primary Voters		
	Now	6/2007		Now	6/2007	
	Satisfied	36%	30%		61%	61%
Want more choices	60	61		37	35	

Senator Hillary Clinton remains the nationwide front-runner in the preferences of those planning to vote in a Democratic primary. Barack Obama is second. The standings haven't changed much over the summer.

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS DEM NOMINEE?
(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	6/2007	5/2007
Clinton	43%	48%	46%
Obama	24	24	24
Edwards	16	11	14

Clinton remains the choice of both liberals and moderate Democratic primary voters, and both men and women. Men prefer her over Obama by 41% to 21%, and women back her over Obama by a similar margin, 45% to 26%.

Each candidate's supporters, though, have some positive things to say about their chief competition. Clinton's backers think Barack Obama

has strong qualities of leadership, and Obama's backers think the same of Hillary Clinton.

And as was the case last month, many voters are paying attention to the 2008 Presidential campaign: seven in ten say they are paying at least some attention. When they pick their top issues from a list of choices, it appears there will be many topics on their minds. The war in Iraq (20%), terrorism (17%), the economy (17%) and health care (16%) all vie to be top issues.

PRESIDENT BUSH

The President's approval ratings on handling specific issues haven't changed much over the last two months. Terrorism remains his strongest issue, but even here, fewer than half - 39% - approve. 37% approve of his handling of the economy, while only about one in four Americans approve of his handling of foreign policy and the war in Iraq. A majority of Americans disapprove of how the President is handling his job in each of these specific areas.

BUSH JOB APPROVALS

	Now	6/2007	5/2007
Terrorism	39%	39%	42%
Economy	37%	--	36%
Foreign Policy	27%	--	25%
Iraq	25%	23%	23%
Overall	29%	27%	30%

TERRORISM, THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM, AND THE ECONOMY

News of a failed terrorist plot in London last month does not seem to have made Americans any more wary of a terrorist attack in the United States in the near future than they were a year ago. Today only 17% of Americans believe a terrorist attack in the United States is very likely in the next few months. 40% say such an attack is somewhat likely, and another 40% say such an attack is not likely.

LIKELIHOOD OF TERROR ATTACK IN U.S. IN NEXT FEW MONTHS

	Now	8/2006
Very likely	17%	16%
Somewhat likely	40	43
Not likely	40	39

These numbers are virtually identical to what was recorded last summer. The majority of interviews conducted for this poll took place before the National Intelligence Estimate was released on Tuesday.

The number of people who cite terrorism as the most important problem facing the country today has doubled from last month, and the number one problem facing the country today remains - by large margins - the war in Iraq. 27% cite the Iraq War as the country's most important

problem, followed by health care (9%) the economy and jobs (8%) and immigration (8%).

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

	Now	5/2007
War in Iraq	27%	31%
Health care	9	5
Economy & jobs	8	8
Immigration	8	7
Terrorism	6	3

Even though they cite it second after the war in Iraq as the country's most important problem, Americans are generally optimistic when evaluating the U.S. economy. 55% of Americans would rate the economy as at least fairly good, while 43% say it is fairly or very bad.

VIEWS OF THE ECONOMY

	Now	5/2007
Good	55%	55%
Bad	43	43

However, only 12% of Americans think the national economy is getting better, while 41% say it is getting worse. 45% think the economy is staying the same.

Pessimism about what direction the country is going overall remains high in this poll. Currently, more than seven in 10 Americans say the country is off on the wrong track. Democrats and Independents overwhelmingly think so, while Republicans are divided.

DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY

	Now	6/2007
Wrong track	72%	75%
Right direction	22	19

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1554 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone July 9-17, 2007. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher. An oversample of women was also conducted for this poll, for a total of 1068 interviews among this group, by selecting them with higher probability than men in households with both men and women. The weights of men and women in mixed-gender households were adjusted to compensate for their different probabilities of selection. The final weighted distribution of men and women in the sample is in proportion to the composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census.

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q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Jun07c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	29	64	5	24	27
Disapprove	64	26	91	67	65
DK/NA	7	10	4	9	8

q2 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?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
Right direction	22	45	7	19	19
Wrong track	72	46	89	75	75
DK/NA	6	9	4	6	6

q3 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May07a
War in Iraq	27	22	37	22	31
Health Care	9	9	9	9	5
Economy / Jobs	8	7	11	7	8
Immigration	8	10	3	10	7
Terrorism (general)	6	12	3	5	3
The President/G.W. Bush	4	1	5	4	3
Moral Values/Family Values	2	5	1	1	3
Poverty / Homelessness	2	0	2	2	3
Environment	2	1	3	2	3
Foreign Policy	2	1	3	2	3
Crime	2	1	1	3	2
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	2	2	2	1	7
Miscellaneous Social Issue	2	2	2	3	1
Other	19	22	15	23	16
DK/NA	5	5	3	6	5

q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
Approve	27	56	10	20	25
Disapprove	63	30	84	70	65
DK/NA	10	14	6	10	10

q5 How about the economy? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
Approve	37	68	13	35	36
Disapprove	55	23	79	57	56
DK/NA	8	9	8	8	8

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
Approve	25	53	5	21	23
Disapprove	70	40	92	73	70
DK/NA	5	7	3	6	7

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07a
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	39	69	17	37	39
Disapprove	53	23	76	53	53
DK/NA	8	8	7	10	8

q8 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

					Jun07c
Approve	29	22	35	28	27
Disapprove	59	70	51	59	60
DK/NA	12	8	14	13	13

q9 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

					May07a
Very good	9	20	2	8	7
Fairly good	46	55	36	48	48
Fairly bad	30	19	40	29	29
Very bad	13	5	19	14	14
DK/NA	2	1	3	1	2

q10 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

Better	12	27	3	9	11
Worse	41	23	55	41	43
Same	45	49	38	48	44
DK/NA	2	1	4	2	2

q11 Are you mostly pleased or mostly disappointed with what the Democrats in Congress are doing?

Pleased	28	9	51	21
Disappointed	58	80	34	62
DK/NA	14	11	15	17

q12 Are you mostly pleased or mostly disappointed with what the Republicans in Congress are doing?

Pleased	21	36	11	18
Disappointed	68	52	81	69
DK/NA	11	12	8	13

q13 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2008 presidential campaign - a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
	%	%	%	%	%
A lot	24	18	27	25	25
Some	46	48	46	44	46
Not much	22	23	18	23	23
None at all	9	10	8	8	6
DK/NA	0	1	1	0	0

q14 If the 2008 election for President were being held today, would you probably vote for the Republican candidate or would you probably vote for the Democratic candidate?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Republican	32	74	3	27
Democratic	47	10	90	37
Other (vol.)	2	1	0	4
Won't vote (vol.)	1	1	1	2
Depends (vol.)	10	9	4	18
DK/NA	8	5	2	12

q15 Are you generally satisfied with the candidates now running for the Democratic nomination for President, or do you wish there were more choices?

	DEMOCRATIC	PRIMARY VOTERS	Jun07c
Satisfied		61	61
More choices		37	35
DK/NA		2	4

q16 Are you generally satisfied with the candidates now running for the Republican nomination for President, or do you wish there were more choices?

	REPUBLICAN	PRIMARY VOTERS	
Satisfied		36	30
More choices		60	61
DK/NA		4	9

q17 In deciding who you would like to see elected President next year, which ONE of the following issues will be most important to you? 1. Education, or 2. Terrorism and national security, or 3. The environment and global warming, or 4. the economy and jobs, or 5. Health care, or 6. The war in Iraq, or 7. Immigration, or 8. Something else?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
The war in Iraq	20	14	27	18
Terrorism & nat'l security	17	33	6	14
The economy and jobs	17	11	19	19
Health care	16	12	20	14
Immigration	10	14	4	12
Education	8	9	9	6
Environment & global warming	7	1	7	11
Something else	5	5	3	5
DK/NA	0	1	5	1

q18 Which of these comes closest to your view?...Abortion should be generally available to those who want it, abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now, abortion should not be permitted?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **	May07a
Generally available	41	25
Available but limits	34	42
Should not be permitted	22	35
Don't know/No answer	3	21
		3

q19 Which of the following three statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the healthcare system in the United States? 1) On the whole, the healthcare system works pretty well and only minor changes are necessary to make it work better or 2) There are some good things in our health care system, but fundamental changes are needed or 3) Our healthcare system has so much wrong with it that we need to completely rebuild it.

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb07b
	%	%	%	%	%
Minor changes	11	22	7	8	8
Fundamental changes	50	49	47	54	54
Rebuild	38	28	46	37	36
DK/NA	1	1	0	1	2

q20 How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right - just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct06a
Always	2	4	1	2	2
Most	22	28	18	20	26
Some	71	64	76	71	66
Never (vol.)	5	4	5	6	4
DK/NA	0	0	0	1	2

q21 In general, is your opinion of the Republican party favorable, or not favorable?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May07a
Favorable	38	75	14	33	38
Not favorable	56	21	85	56	56
DK/NA	6	4	1	11	6

q22 In general, is your opinion of the Democratic party favorable, or not favorable?

Favorable	52	19	88	44	53
Not favorable	41	76	9	44	42
DK/NA	7	5	3	12	5

q23 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q32 Is your opinion of Mike Bloomberg favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mike Bloomberg yet to have an opinion?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun07c
Favorable	9	7	12	8	10
Not favorable	9	10	7	11	9
Undecided	18	16	17	20	19
Haven't heard enough	62	66	62	60	61
Refused	2	1	2	1	1

q33 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q34 Is your opinion of Rudy Giuliani favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Rudy Giuliani yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Rep.	Jun07c
	*** Party ID ***				Primary	
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Voters	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	39	54	28	37	55	36
Not favorable	26	12	36	27	13	27
Undecided	23	24	22	25	23	27
Haven't heard enough	12	10	14	12	8	10
Refused	0	0	0	0	1	0

q35 Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	29	38	22	28	39	27
Not favorable	33	27	38	33	31	29
Undecided	24	23	25	25	22	25
Haven't heard enough	14	12	15	14	8	19
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	0

q36 Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mitt Romney yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	11	21	4	10	22	12
Not favorable	15	8	20	17	9	16
Undecided	24	25	21	26	27	19
Haven't heard enough	49	45	54	47	42	52
Refused	1	1	1	0	0	1

q37 Is your opinion of Fred Thompson favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Fred Thompson yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	17	25	8	18	32	17
Not favorable	11	3	16	11	4	11
Undecided	20	16	23	22	18	13
Haven't heard enough	52	55	53	49	46	58
Refused	0	1	0	0	0	1

q38 Is your opinion of John Edwards favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Edwards yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Dem.	Jun07c
	*** Party ID ***				Primary	
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Voters	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	34	18	50	30	49	33
Not favorable	29	49	13	27	14	27
Undecided	26	22	29	28	27	26
Haven't heard enough	11	11	9	13	9	14
Refused	0	0	0	2	1	0

q39 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	37	20	55	34	51	40
Not favorable	21	34	12	21	13	22
Undecided	24	26	18	27	19	22
Haven't heard enough	18	20	16	18	17	15
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	1

q40 Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Clinton yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Dem.	Jun07c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Primary Voters	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	40	12	70	35	66	45
Not favorable	40	75	11	39	15	40
Undecided	18	11	19	22	18	13
Haven't heard enough	2	2	1	3	1	2
Refused	0	0	0	1	0	0

q41-47 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q48 Suppose the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John Edwards. Who would you most like to see nominated--Clinton, Obama, Edwards, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS		
Clinton	43	48
Obama	24	24
Edwards	16	11
Someone else/None	9	8
Undecided (Vol.)	7	5
DK/NA	1	4

q49 Suppose the race for the Republican Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, and Mitt Romney. Who would you most like to see nominated -- McCain, Giuliani, Romney, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS		
McCain	19	26
Giuliani	37	42
Romney	10	8
Someone else/None	26	19
Undecided (Vol.)	5	2
DK/NA	3	3

q50 Suppose the race for the Republican Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, and Fred Thompson. Who would you most like to see nominated -- McCain, Giuliani, Romney, Thompson, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS		
McCain	15	21
Giuliani	33	34
Romney	8	6
Thompson	25	22
Someone else/None	11	7
Undecided (vol.)	5	5
DK/NA	3	5

q51-q104 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q105 How likely do you think it is that there will be another terrorist attack in the United States within the next few months--very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

**** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ****

***** Party ID *****

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	17	22	13	17	16
Somewhat likely	40	47	37	38	43
Not very likely	30	23	34	33	30
Not at all likely	10	7	13	9	9
DK/NA	3	1	3	3	2

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>	
Total Respondents	1554		
Total Republicans	474	439	(28%)
Total Democrats	560	535	(34%)
Total Independents	520	580	(38%)
Total Men	486	746	(48%)
Total Women	1068	808	(52%)