

**THE 2006 MIDTERMS**  
September 15-19, 2006

Americans usually dislike Congress but like their own representative; that is why the re-election rate for incumbents is so high. But this year fewer than half of voters believe their own Congressional Representative deserves reelection - fewer than at any time since 1994. 42% of voters feel their Congressman deserves reelection, but 47% say it's time to give a new person a chance.

**VOTERS' REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS:**

(Among registered voters)

	Now	10/2004	10/2002	10/1998	9/1994
Deserves re-election	42%	51%	50%	44%	37%
Time for someone new	47	27	38	46	47

As for Congress overall, Americans continue to give it low approval ratings - just 25% approve of the job they're doing in this poll. This matches the approval rating Congress received in September 1994, two months before the Republican takeover of Congress. Just before the election that year, approval fell even more, to 20%.

**CONGRESS JOB APPROVAL**

	Now	9/2002	9/1998	9/1994
Approve	25%	48%	49%	25%
Disapprove	61	36	38	63

For most Americans, the 2006 Congressional elections have been nationalized: they say it will be national, not local issues that will determine their vote. Fewer than half say they will not be affected by the fight for party control or by their feelings about President Bush. Democrats enjoy an advantage over Republicans in the generic Congressional ballot, but they are less apt to be seen as having a plan for the country.

Most voters - 63% - say national issues will matter to them more this year. Just 27% say their vote will be about their state's local issues. In 2002, national issues mattered more to 55% of voters. Majorities of both Republicans and Democrats say national issues will matter more this election.

**WHICH WILL BE MORE IMPORTANT TO YOUR VOTE?**

(Among registered voters)

	Now	10/2002
National issues	63%	55%
State' local issues	27	35

Opinions about the Congress are usually low - and the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress is seen as worse than usual. 64% of Americans say that during 2005 and 2006 Congress has accomplished less than it usually does during a typical two year period.

**HAS CONGRESS ACCOMPLISHED MORE OR LESS THAN IT USUALLY DOES?**

More	15%
Less	64

When voters were asked to volunteer one thing Congress has done in the past year that stands out, 75% could not come up with anything. 4% name legislation in general and the same number mention immigration. These are followed by the war with Iraq with 3%.

Americans are mostly negative about where the country in general has gone in recent years - not just what has happened in Congress. When asked to compare things in the U.S. now to five years ago, 60% of Americans say things are worse today. Only 18% say things are better, while a similar number think things are about the same as they were five years ago.

**U.S. TODAY vs. FIVE YEARS AGO**

	Now	1/2005
Better today	18%	20%
Worse today	60	56
About the same	19	21

Americans are divided as to whether things will be better in the next five years. 31% think things will be better five years from now, while 37% think things will get worse. One out of 4 Americans expect things to stay about the same.

**U.S. TODAY vs. FIVE YEARS FROM NOW**

	Now	1/2005
Better in five years	31%	36%
Worse in five years	37	32
About the same	27	28

When looking ahead to the future for the next generation of Americans, 30% believe life will be better, while 38% believe that life will be worse. 28% of Americans today believe that things will be about the same for future generations of Americans. This outlook is similar to what it was in October 2002.

Americans are also mostly pessimistic about government in general. 62% say people like themselves have little say in what the government does. 71% think the government does the right thing only some of the time or never.

## VOTING FOR CONGRESS

If the midterm elections for the U.S. House of Representatives were held today, 50% of registered voters say they would support the Democratic candidate, while 35% would support the Republican.

### 2006 CONGRESSIONAL VOTE

(Among registered voters)

Democrat	50%
Republican	35

Among the smaller group of registered voters who say they will DEFINITELY vote this fall, results are similar: 50% plan to vote for the Democrat, while 37% say they will vote for the Republican.

More voters say their vote will be to help put Democrats in control than say it will be to help Republicans. 34% see their vote for Congress as a vote to help put Democrats in control; another 19% think of it as helping the Republican Party stay in control. 44% say their vote will be about something else.

### VOTE FOR CONGRESS WILL BE:

(Among registered voters)

	Now	7/2006
To help Democrats gain control	34%	29%
To help Republicans keep control	19	18
About something else	44	51

35% think of their vote this November as one against the President and 16% think of it as for him. Another 46% say Bush is not a factor in their vote. These numbers are similar to what they were this past July, but a reversal from the summer before the 2002 midterm elections.

### VOTE FOR CONGRESS WILL BE:

(Among registered voters)

	Now	7/2006	7/2002
Vote for Bush	16%	14%	26%
Vote against Bush	35	33	16
Not about Bush	46	48	51

Heading into previous midterm elections, voters were less likely to say presidents would be factors in their votes than they are this year. And in those earlier elections, voters who said presidents would be a factor said their vote for Congress was either a vote for the president or evenly divided.

**PAST PRESIDENTS: WILL YOUR VOTE FOR CONGRESS BE A...**

(Among registered voters)

	Now (GW Bush)	9/1998 (Clinton)	10/1990 (GHW Bush)	9/1986 (Reagan)
Vote for the President	16%	17%	19%	26%
Vote against the President	35	14	15	16
Not about the President	46	63	61	51

In another change from previous years, voters now think it really matters who controls Congress. 65% disagree with the statement: "It makes no real difference which party controls congress - things go on just as they did before" - the highest number since CBS News and the New York Times started asking the question in 1998. Views are about the same among Americans overall.

**AGREE OR DISAGREE: IT MAKES NO REAL DIFFERENCE WHICH PARTY CONTROLS CONGRESS**

(Among registered voters)

	Now	10/2002	10/1998
Agree	34%	34%	39%
Disagree	65	62	57

If the voters' predictions are correct, there will be a real change next January: 54% of voters expect the Democrats will win more seats this fall than the Republicans. 32% say the Republicans will win more seats.

Voters are more enthusiastic about this year's elections than previous ones. 43% say they are more enthusiastic this year - higher than in 2002 and 1998.

**ELECTION 2006 VS. PAST CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS**

(Among registered voters)

	Now	10/2002	10/1998
More enthusiastic	43%	33%	37%
Less enthusiastic	35	42	42
Same (vol.)	20	22	18

Moreover, seven in 10 voters say they are paying at least some attention to the 2006 election campaigns, including a quarter who are paying a lot of attention.

**CONGRESS, ITS MEMBERS, AND THE PARTIES**

When it comes to Congress as a whole, cleaning house is the apparent message. Just 12% of voters say most members of Congress have done their job well enough to deserve reelection, while three in four believe it's time to give new people a chance. Historically, few voters have said that most members of Congress deserve reelection.

### MOST MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

(Among registered voters)

	Now	10/2002	10/1998	9/1994
Deserves re-election	12%	15%	24%	14%
Time for someone new	76	70	64	78

On specific characteristics, voters continue to rate their own Congressman better than the legislative body as a whole. But no one's marks are stellar.

46% of voters say their own Representative is more interested in serving the people of his district, but a sizable number - 43% - say he or she is more interested in helping special interest groups. Half say their Congressman understands their needs and problems, but 44% say he or she does not. Larger percentages of voters view most members of Congress as more interested in helping special interests, and not understanding people like them.

### CONGRESS 2006

(Among registered voters)

	<u>Own Representative</u>	<u>Most members of Congress</u>
Deserves reelection	42%	12%
Time for new person	47	76
More interested in helping:		
People in their district	46%	18%
Special interest groups	43	75
Understands needs & problems of people like you:		
Yes	49%	28%
No	44	68

Americans continue to give their own Representative higher ratings than the legislative body as a whole. 53% of Americans approve of the job their Congressman is doing.

Republicans have the advantage when it comes to which party is seen as having a clear plan for the country -- 45% believe they have a clear plan, as opposed to 38% who say Democrats do. About half believes Democrats do not have a clear plan; 45% think Republicans do not have one.

### DO THEY HAVE A CLEAR PLAN FOR THE COUNTRY?

	Democrats	Republicans
Clear plan	38%	45%
No clear plan	49%	45

Americans think Republicans and Democrats would focus first and foremost on the war in Iraq if elected in November, but beyond that, many think each party would have different priorities if they

controlled Congress after the November elections. The largest disparities are on terrorism and the economy. 18% believe fighting terrorism would be the Republicans' top priority, as opposed to just 5% who believe it would top the Democrats' priorities; 12% believe Democrats would focus on the economy, as opposed to just 6% for Republicans.

**PARTY PRIORITIES IF THEY CONTROL CONGRESS...?**

	Republicans	Democrats
War/Iraq	22%	28%
Terrorism	18	5
Immigration	6	3
Economy/jobs	6	12
Don't know/Other	38	40

The overwhelming majority (69%) believes both Democrats and Republicans take terrorism equally seriously. But some do see a difference on this measure, and give an edge to Republicans over Democrats by 22% to 6%.

**WHICH PARTY TAKES TERRORISM MORE SERIOUSLY?**

Both equally	69%
Republicans do	22
Democrats do	6

Republicans continue to hold an edge as the party seen as best able to deal with terrorism, while Democrats have a larger edge on the economy, on which they now have a 15-point lead.

Democrats continue to hold a 5-point lead over the Republicans as the party best able to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq. But Democrats have seen their advantage on Iraq dwindle from the 18-point advantage they held in May.

**WHICH PARTY IS BETTER AT...?**

	Republican	Democratic
Dealing w/ terrorism	42%	37
Ensuring a strong economy	35%	50
Handling the war in Iraq	37%	42

Despite Republican inroads on which party would be better at handling the war in Iraq and their advantage on dealing with terrorism, most people believe Democrats are more likely to tell the truth about what's happening in Iraq (by 21 points) and on terrorism (by 14 points).

**WHICH PARTY'S CANDIDATES WILL TELL THE TRUTH ON...?**

	Republicans	Democrats
Iraq	23%	44
Terrorism	28%	42

52% of Americans have a favorable view of the Democratic Party, compared to 41% who view the Republicans favorably. Views of Democrats

have changed little since May. Republicans made some gains in June, but views of the GOP have slipped again this month.

**VIEWS OF THE PARTIES**

	Now	7/2006	5/2006
<u>Democratic Party</u>			
Favorable	52%	52%	55%
Unfavorable	40	41	37
<u>Republican Party</u>			
Favorable	41%	43	37%
Unfavorable	52	51	57

**ISSUES AND THE VOTE**

Although few voters will base their vote solely on these issues, terrorism, the war in Iraq and immigration will still be top tier issues for voters in this election. About one in five says terrorism will be the single most important issue in their vote, and one in ten says the same about the war and immigration. Far larger majorities say those three issues will be one of the top three they consider when deciding how to vote.

**HOW MUCH WILL YOUR VOTE BE INFLUENCED BY CANDIDATE'S POSITION ON:**

(Among registered voters)

	War in Iraq	Immigration	Terrorism
Single most important	11%	9%	19%
One of top three issues	75	55	70
Little influence	13	34	11

Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say their vote this Fall will be influenced by a candidate's positions on terrorism and immigration, while Democrats are more likely to say the war in Iraq will matter more in their vote.

**POTENTIAL 2008 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES**

Views of the current presumed frontrunners for their respective parties' 2008 presidential nominations - Hillary Rodham Clinton for the Democrats and John McCain for the Republicans - are similar to what they were in May and June. On the Democratic side, 32% now view Senator Clinton favorably (the same as in June), and 36% view her unfavorably. Senator McCain receives more positive than negative views from the public, but more than five in 10 Americans continue to be undecided or have no opinion of him.

**VIEWS OF POTENTIAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES**

	<u>Hillary Clinton</u>			<u>John McCain</u>		
	Now	7/2006	5/2006	Now	7/2006	5/2006
Favorable	32%	32%	34%	28%	28%	31%
Unfavorable	36	39	35	14	13	15
Undecided/ No opinion	31	29	32	56	58	53

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This poll was conducted among a nationwide random sample of 1131 adults, interviewed by telephone September 15-19, 2006. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. Error for subgroups may be higher.



**CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL**  
**THE 2006 MIDTERMS**  
**September 15-19, 2006**

q1 I'd like you to compare the way things are going in the United States to the way they were going five years ago. Generally, would you say things are going better today, worse today, or about the same today as they were going five years ago?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Jan05b
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Better	18	36	5	14	20
Worse	60	34	81	62	56
About the same	19	27	11	20	21
DK/NA	3	3	3	4	3

q2 And what is your best guess about the United States five years from now? Generally, if things go pretty much as you now expect, do you think things will be better, worse or about the same as they are today?

Better	31	39	30	26	36
Worse	37	31	36	42	32
About the same	27	23	27	29	28
DK/NA	5	7	7	3	4

q3-q8 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q9 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

					Aug06b
Approve	25	30	24	22	29
Disapprove	61	58	66	60	60
DK/NA	14	12	10	18	11

q10 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?

					Jul06a
Approve	53	55	56	49	57
Disapprove	29	28	27	32	27
DK/NA	18	17	17	19	16

q11-q12 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q13 How likely is it that you will vote in the 2006 election for Congress this November - would you say you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote in the election for Congress.

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **			
Definitely vote	78	81	79	74
Probably vote	18	16	17	21
Probably not vote	3	3	3	3
Definitely not vote	0	0	0	0
Already voted	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	1	0	1	2

q14 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2006 election campaign -- a lot, some, not much or no attention so far?

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
A lot	25	29	28	20
Some	45	45	41	48
Not much	25	22	26	26
No attention	5	4	5	6

q15 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?

					Aug06b
Republican	35	82	2	23	32
Democratic	50	9	92	47	47
Other (Vol.)	1	0	0	3	-
Won't vote (Vol.)	0	0	0	1	-
Depends (Vol.)	7	4	1	14	12
DK/NA	7	5	5	12	9

q16 Compared to previous Congressional elections, this year are you more enthusiastic about voting than usual, or less enthusiastic?

					Oct02f
More enthusiastic	43	46	47	36	33
Less enthusiastic	35	33	30	42	42
Same (vol.)	20	20	21	21	22
DK/NA	2	1	2	1	3

q17 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?

					Jul06a
Vote for Bush	16	34	3	11	14
Vote against Bush	35	8	63	32	33
Bush not a factor	46	53	32	53	48
Won't vote (Vol.)	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know/No answer	3	5	2	4	5

q18 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?

Put Dems in	34	4	71	24	29
Keep Reps in	19	49	1	9	18
Something else	44	45	26	61	51
Won't vote (Vol.)	0	0	0	1	-
DK/NA	3	2	2	5	2

q19 In the next Congressional election, how much will your vote be influenced by a candidate's position on the war in Iraq: 1) it is the single most important issue, OR 2) it is one of the top three issues I will consider, OR 3) it will have little influence on my vote?

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

	Total %	*** Party ID ***		
		Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Single most important	11	8	15	10
One of the top three issues	75	78	75	71
Little influence	13	13	10	17
DK/NA	1	1	0	2

q20 In the next Congressional election, how much will your vote be influenced by a candidate's position on immigration: 1) it is the single most important issue, OR 2) it is one of the top three issues I will consider, OR 3) it will have little influence on my vote?

Single most important	9	11	6	12
One of the top three issues	55	61	47	59
Little influence	34	28	46	29
DK/NA	2	0	1	0

q21 Think about the things Congress has done during the past year. Is there any one thing that Congress has done in the past year that stands out in your mind? IF YES, ASK: What is that?

Legislation (general)	4	2	4	6
Immigration reform/talked	4	4	4	3
Iraq related / the war	3	3	3	3
Patriot Act / privacy	2	1	1	2
Rx drugs	1	1	1	1
Troop funding / military m	1	1	0	0
Lower taxes	1	0	2	0
Scandals / Bribes / Money	1	1	0	1
They have done nothing	1	1	1	1
Bickered/ argued	1	1	1	1
Immigration reform	1	1	1	1
Stem cell research	1	1	0	1
Gave themselves a raise	1	1	2	1
Aid to victims of hurricane	1	1	2	1
Other	2	6	1	3
Can't name anything/DK/NA	75	75	77	75

q82 In the next Congressional election, how much will your vote be influenced by how the candidate would deal with terrorism: 1) It is the single most important issue; OR 2) it is one of the top three issues I will consider; OR 3) It will have little influence on my vote?

Single most important	19	26	12	19
One of the top three issue	70	69	72	68
Little influence	11	5	15	13
DK/NA	0	0	1	0

q22 Regardless of how you intend to vote in November, which will matter more to you when you vote this November -- your state's local issues or national issues?

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct02f
	%	%	%	%	%
State's local issues	27	24	27	29	35
National issues	63	68	64	59	55
Both (vol.)	9	7	9	10	9
DK/NA	1	1	0	2	1

q23 Regardless of how you intend to vote in November, who do you expect will win more seats in this year's election for the House of Representatives -- the Democrats or the Republicans?

Democrats	54	32	71	58
Republicans	32	54	22	21
DK/NA	14	14	7	21

q24 Would you agree or disagree with the following statement: it makes no real difference which party controls Congress -- things go on just as they did before.

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

Oct02f

Agree	34	30	30	41	34
Disagree	65	69	69	57	62
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	4

q25 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?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

Jul06a

Favorable	32	10	57	28	32
Not favorable	36	69	8	34	39
Undecided	20	11	22	25	21
Haven't heard enough	11	9	13	12	8
Refused	1	1	0	1	0

q26 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	28	27	27	31	28
Not favorable	14	20	13	10	13
Undecided	28	30	27	27	29
Haven't heard enough	28	22	31	31	29
Refused	2	1	2	1	1

q27 Do you think the representative in Congress from your district has performed his or her job well enough to deserve re-election, or do you think it's time to give a new person a chance?

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

	Total	*** Party ID ***			Oct04d
		Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Deserves re-election	42	45	41	39	51
Time for new person	47	43	49	48	27
Depends on candidates	2	3	2	2	3
DK/NA	9	9	8	11	19

q28 Do you think your own Representative in Congress is more interested in serving the people he or she represents, or more interested in serving special interest groups?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct98f
					%
People	46	50	46	41	45
Special interest groups	43	38	43	46	39
DK/NA	11	12	11	13	16

q29 Do you think your own Representative in Congress understands the needs and problems of people like you, or not?

Understands	49	53	52	43	59
Does not understand	44	40	41	50	34
DK/NA	7	7	7	7	7

q30 During 2005 and 2006, do you think Congress has accomplished more or less than it usually does during a typical two year period?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr06a
					%
More	12	18	8	11	14
Less	68	64	73	68	67
Same (vol.)	8	7	6	10	9
DK/NA	12	11	13	11	10

q31 Do you think most members of Congress have done a good enough job to deserve re-election, or do you think it's time to give new people a chance?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct02f
					%
Deserve re-election	12	23	7	8	24
Time for new people	76	63	84	78	61
Depends on candidates (vol.)	5	6	3	5	7
DK/NA	7	8	6	9	8

q32 Do you think most members of Congress are more interested in serving the people they represent, or more interested in serving special interest groups?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct98f
					%
People	18	22	19	14	25
Special interest groups	75	71	73	79	62
DK/NA	7	7	8	7	13

q33 Do you think most members of Congress understand the needs and problems of people like you, or not?

\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct96c
	%	%	%	%	%
Understands	28	37	24	25	29
Does not understand	68	59	73	71	63
DK/NA	4	4	3	4	8

q34 Do you agree or disagree that the government would work better if all new people were elected this year?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

					Oct98f
Agree	38	22	46	43	26
Disagree	56	74	46	49	65
DK/NA	6	4	8	8	9

q35 How much say do you think people like yourself have about what the government does -- a good deal, some, or not much?

					Jul03b
Good deal	8	10	8	7	17
Some	29	37	29	23	38
Not much	62	52	62	70	40
DK/NA	1	1	1	0	5

q36 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?

					Jan06b
Just about always	1	3	1	0	5
Most of the time	26	41	19	21	27
Some of the time	65	53	75	66	63
Never (vol.)	6	1	5	10	4
DK/NA	2	2	0	3	1

q37 In general, is your opinion of the Republican party favorable or not favorable?

					Jul06a
Favorable	41	82	10	34	43
Not favorable	52	14	85	52	51
DK/NA	7	4	5	14	6

q38 In general, is your opinion of the Democratic party favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	52	18	85	50	52
Not favorable	40	75	12	36	41
DK/NA	8	7	3	14	7

q39 If the Republicans continue to control Congress after the election in November, what do you think will be their top priority?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Terrorism (general)	18	27	15	14
War	13	12	14	13
Iraq	9	9	8	10
Immigration	6	8	5	5
Economy	6	8	3	6
National Security	2	4	2	2
Taxes	2	0	4	2
pres - get / keep	2	1	2	2
Homeland Security	1	2	1	1
Health care	1	0	1	1
foreign policy	1	1	0	2
Gas prices	1	0	3	2
Other	12	6	14	14
DK/NA	26	22	28	26

q40 If the Democrats control Congress after the election in November, what do you think will be their top priority?

War	15	9	20	15
Iraq	13	10	17	11
Economy	11	10	15	9
Terrorism (general)	5	7	4	6
Immigration	3	5	2	2
Health care	2	1	3	3
Homeland Security	2	1	2	1
Taxes	2	4	1	2
Education	1	0	0	2
Social Security	1	1	2	0
foreign policy	1	0	1	1
National Security	1	1	1	0
Impeach Bush	1	1	0	0
pres - get / keep	1	1	1	1
Jobs	1	0	2	0
Other	15	19	11	20
DK/NA	25	30	18	27

q41 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?

				Aug06a
				%
Republican	37	79	6	29
Democratic	42	7	76	40
Both (vol.)	2	2	2	2
Neither (vol.)	5	2	7	6
DK/NA	14	10	9	23

q42 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican party or the Democratic party is more likely to ensure a strong economy?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug06a
	%	%	%	%	%
Republican	35	68	7	31	36
Democratic	50	17	83	48	49
Both (vol.)	3	4	1	3	1
Neither (vol.)	3	1	3	5	5
DK/NA	9	10	6	13	9

q43 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?

Republican	42	82	12	37	42
Democratic	37	7	68	35	34
Both (vol.)	6	3	7	8	6
Neither (vol.)	3	2	3	4	7
DK/NA	12	6	10	16	11

q44 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think Republican candidates or Democratic candidates are more likely to tell the truth about how the war in Iraq is going?

Republican	23	52	4	18
Democratic	44	15	74	41
Both (vol.)	5	5	3	7
Neither (vol.)	17	16	12	20
DK/NA	11	12	7	14

q45 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think Republican candidates or Democratic candidates are more likely to tell the truth about the threat of terrorism?

Republican	28	57	5	24
Democratic	42	14	74	38
Both (vol.)	8	8	6	11
Neither (vol.)	10	11	8	12
DK/NA	12	10	7	15

q46 Regardless of how you usually vote, which party do you think takes the threat of terrorism more seriously - do the Republicans take it more seriously, or do the Democrats take it more seriously, or do both parties take the threat of terrorism equally seriously?

Republicans	22	44	5	20
Democrats	6	0	13	4
Both equally	69	54	80	72
Neither (vol.)	1	0	1	2
DK/NA	2	2	1	2



q47 Regardless of how you intend to vote, do you think the Democrats have a clear plan for the country if they gain control of Congress this fall, or don't the Democrats have a clear plan for the country?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Have clear plan	38	21	52	38
Do not have clear plan	49	71	31	48
DK/NA	13	8	17	14

q48 Regardless of how you intend to vote, do you think the Republicans have a clear plan for the country if they gain control of Congress this fall, or don't the Republicans have a clear plan for the country?

Have clear plan	45	61	36	40
Do not have clear plan	45	31	55	48
DK/NA	10	8	9	12

q49-q50 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q51 Do you think the future of the next generation of Americans will be better, worse, or about the same as life today?

					Oct02f
Better	30	33	30	27	29
Worse	38	30	41	42	39
About the same	28	32	24	27	27
DK/NA	4	5	5	4	5

q52-q53 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q54-q69 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q70-q76 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1131	
Total Republicans	361	341
Total Democrats	375	367
Total Independents	395	423
Registered Voters	1007	960