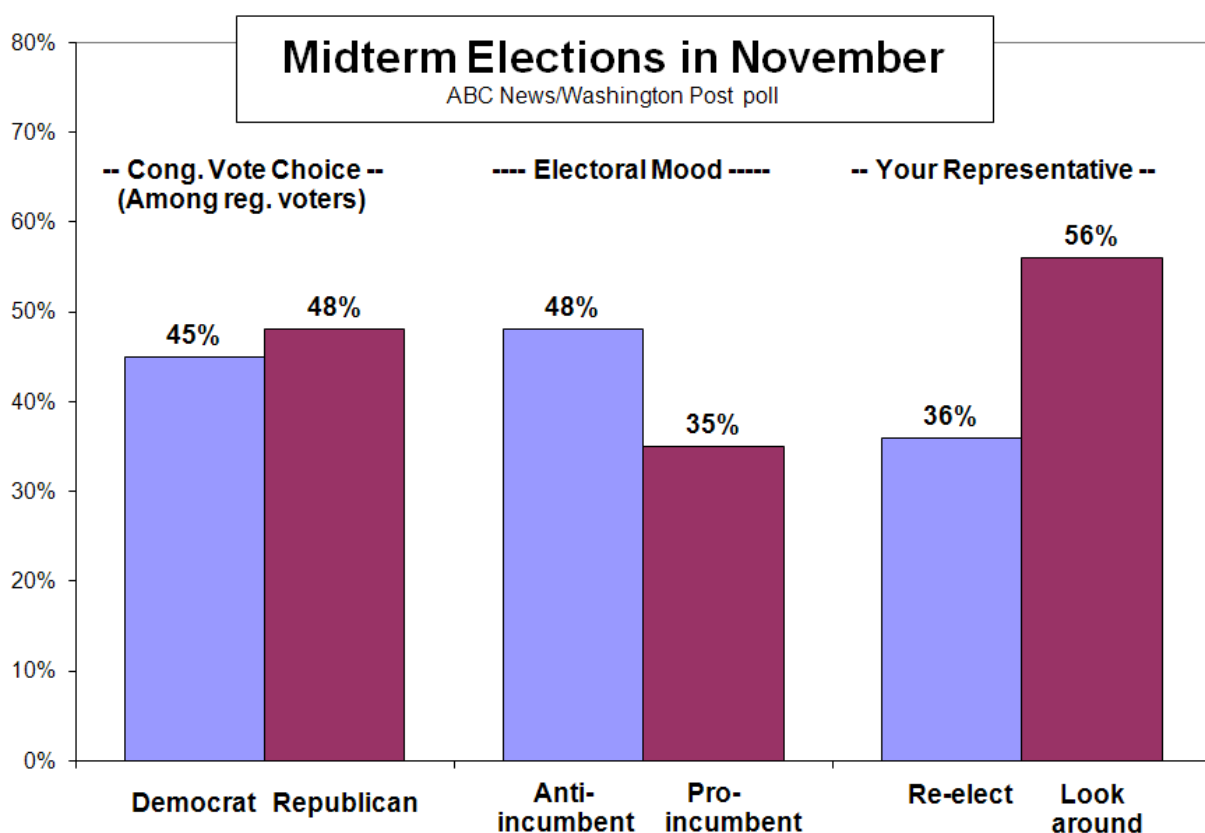


In 2010 Election Politics, Republicans are in the Hunt

The Republican Party has grown dramatically more competitive in public trust to handle the country's most pressing issues, capitalizing on seething economic discontent and doubt about Barack Obama's performance to challenge the Democrats in midterm election preferences.

Among registered voters in this ABC News/Washington Post poll, 48 percent say they'd support the Republican candidate in their congressional district if the midterm elections were today, 45 percent the Democrat. That's a rare level of GOP support in nearly three decades of polls.

Other measures also have tightened sharply since fall. Among all Americans, the Democrats' lead in trust to handle the country's main problems has dwindled to a slim 6 points, 43-37 percent, down from 33 points – a record in a generation of polls – after Barack Obama's election.



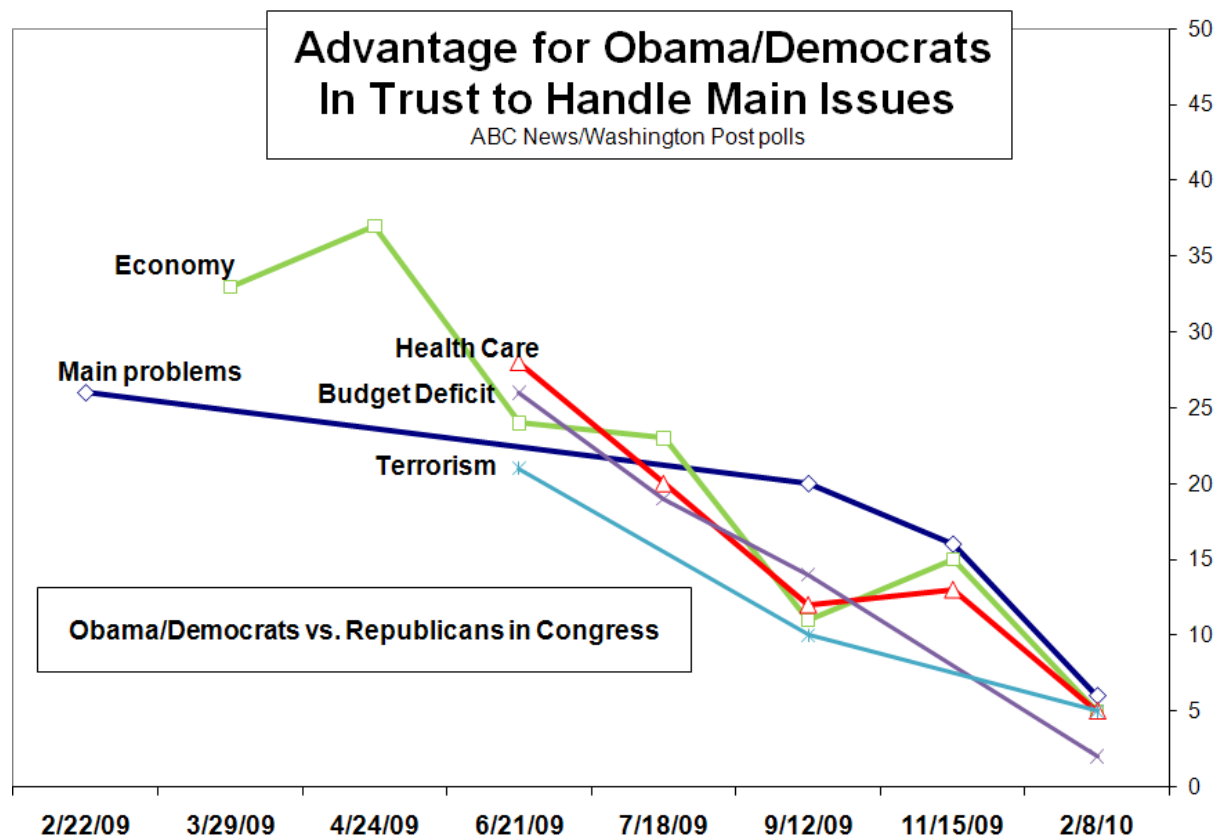
Disapproval of Congress, at 71 percent, matches its highest since 1994, when the GOP swept to control in a midterm rout of the Democrats. Americans by a 20-point margin say they're inclined

to look around for someone new to support for Congress. And by a 13-point margin, 48 to 35 percent, Americans call themselves anti-incumbent rather than pro-incumbent – not quite the levels in 1994 or 2006 (when the Democrats regained control) but broad nonetheless.

A main mover in these sentiments is the public's longstanding economic discontent. Eighty-eight percent say the recession is not over. More than half don't think the economy's even begun to recover, and most of them don't think it'll start improving for more than a year. Among those who do say a recovery has begun, three-quarters say it's a weak one.

Negative economic views are closely associated with anti-incumbency and a preference for Republican candidates alike. With 9.7 percent unemployment, Obama and the Democrats are rediscovering the maxim that in politics, absent an unpopular war, there's nothing as bad for the party in power as a bad economy.

OBAMA – The president himself is down to scant 5-point leads over the Republicans in Congress in trust to handle the economy, health care reform and the threat of terrorism – down, respectively, from 37-, 28- and 21-point advantages on these issues in the spring and summer. His lead on the economy, now near naught, had been a record in ABC/Post polls since 1991.



The president and the opposition party score about evenly, 45-43 percent, in trust to handle the deficit, an especially weak issue for Obama. He does slightly better, but hardly well, in trust to

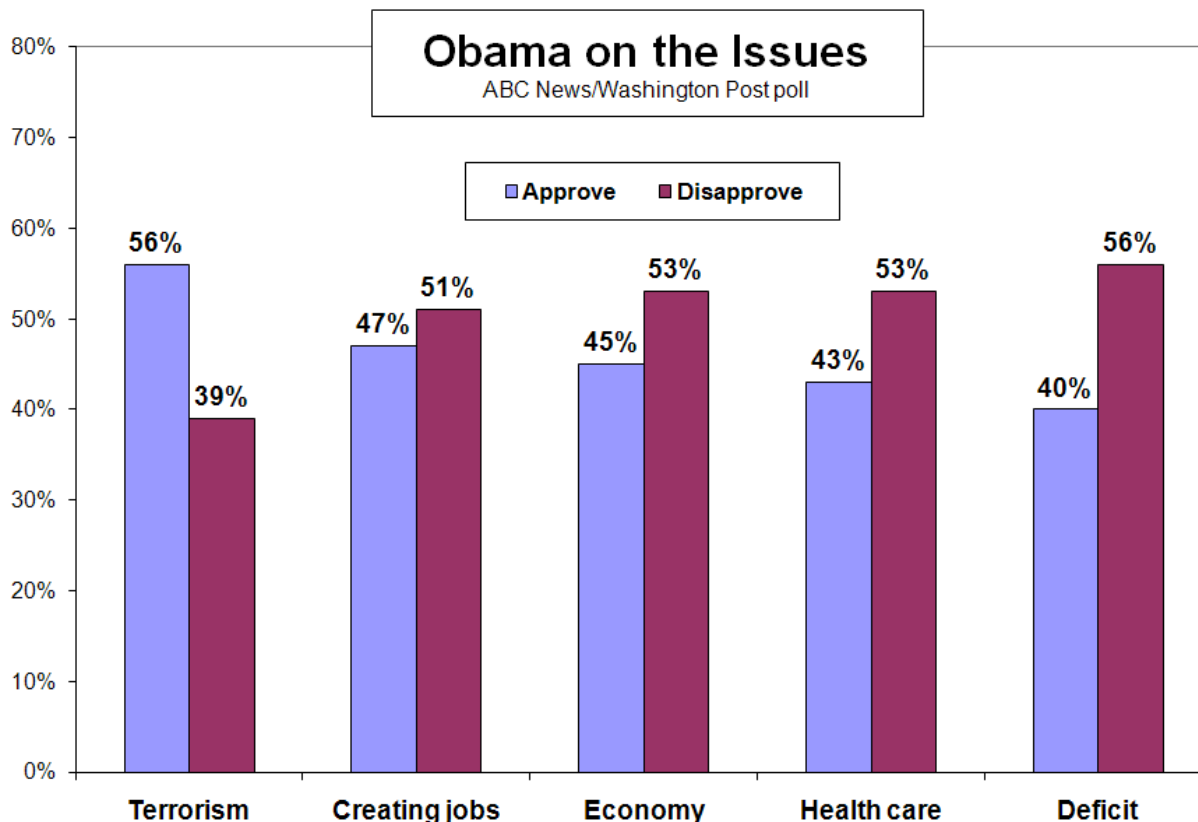
create jobs, an issue he's newly (critics would say belatedly) stressed – a 7-point advantage over the Republicans, but below majority preference, 48 to 41 percent.

Obama's job approval rating overall is just 51 percent, essentially flat since December; 46 percent disapprove. Among independents, the keystone of national politics, 46 percent approve of Obama's work overall – and 49 percent disapprove. The shift among independents shows as well in their trust to handle top issues – away from Obama, and toward the Republicans in Congress. This table shows the movement since an ABC/Post poll in June:

Trust on issues: Obama-Reps, among independents

	Now	June
Economy	42-42%	51-31
Health care	43-40	51-26
Deficit	41-41	52-30
Terrorism	45-42	53-36

The president's rated negatively for his handling of four out of five individual issues tested in this poll: the deficit (56 percent disapprove), health care and the economy (53 percent apiece) and creating jobs (51 percent). His only positive is for handling terrorism.



His opponents, moreover, are fired up. On health care 43 percent “strongly” disapprove of his performance, while far fewer, 24 percent, strongly approve. On the economy strong disapprovers

outnumber strong approvers by 16 points, 38 percent to 22 percent. And on the deficit it's a 23-point margin; 40 percent strongly disapprove while just 17 percent approve strongly.

On top of all this, Obama faces growing second-guessing about trials of accused terrorists. In a shift from November, 55 percent of Americans now say such trials should be held in special military tribunals rather than in the existing federal court system. With handling terrorism one of Obama's last redoubts, that disagreement with his policy poses a threat.

POWER and PARTISANSHIP – In another slap at the party in power, 57 percent of Americans say it's a good thing the Republicans have broken the Democratic supermajority in the Senate, because it'll force the Democrats to cooperate more with GOP leaders to get things done.

But therein lies a challenge for the Republicans – the risk of being seen as obstructionist. They're far more likely than Obama to be seen as not doing enough to compromise on important issues; 58 percent say the Republicans are doing too little to compromise, vs. 44 percent who say that about Obama. (See Feb. 9 analysis.) And more than two-thirds, 68 percent, say the GOP should use its newly regained power to block legislation in the Senate only infrequently.

Indeed, while the GOP is well-positioned to compete this fall, its task in the months ahead is to focus and channel the public's frustration to work in its favor. The risk otherwise is that anti-incumbency could work against Republican incumbents as well as against Democratic ones.

Currently, 48 percent of Americans describe themselves as anti-incumbent, vs. 35 percent pro-incumbent, the 13-point margin noted above. While that presents plenty of raw material for challengers, it compares a bit meekly to the 24-point margin, 53-29 percent, for anti-incumbency in summer 2006, and an almost identical 54-29 percent in 1994.

HEALTH – Health care may be a test case. Views on the overall plan as it currently stands are at a near-even division – 46 percent in favor, 49 percent opposed. Equally important, though, is that the public does not want to see the issue abandoned. Americans by a broad 63-34 percent say lawmakers in Washington should keep trying to pass a comprehensive health care reform plan, rather than giving up on it.

That doesn't mean they think it'll happen: The public divides evenly, 48-46 percent, on whether comprehensive reform has a chance of becoming law this year, or is dead.

An evaluation of the charms vs. the flaws in reform, from the public's perspective, is instructive. Several main elements remain broadly popular: Eighty percent of Americans support banning limits on pre-existing conditions. Seventy-two percent favor an employer mandate, requiring employers to offer health insurance to their full-time employees. And fewer but still 56 percent support a personal mandate requiring all Americans to have health insurance, either from work or another source, with assistance to help low-income people foot the bill.

But those attractions are balanced by unpopular aspects of reform. Sixty percent of Americans say the proposed changes to the health care system are too complicated; just 35 percent say it has

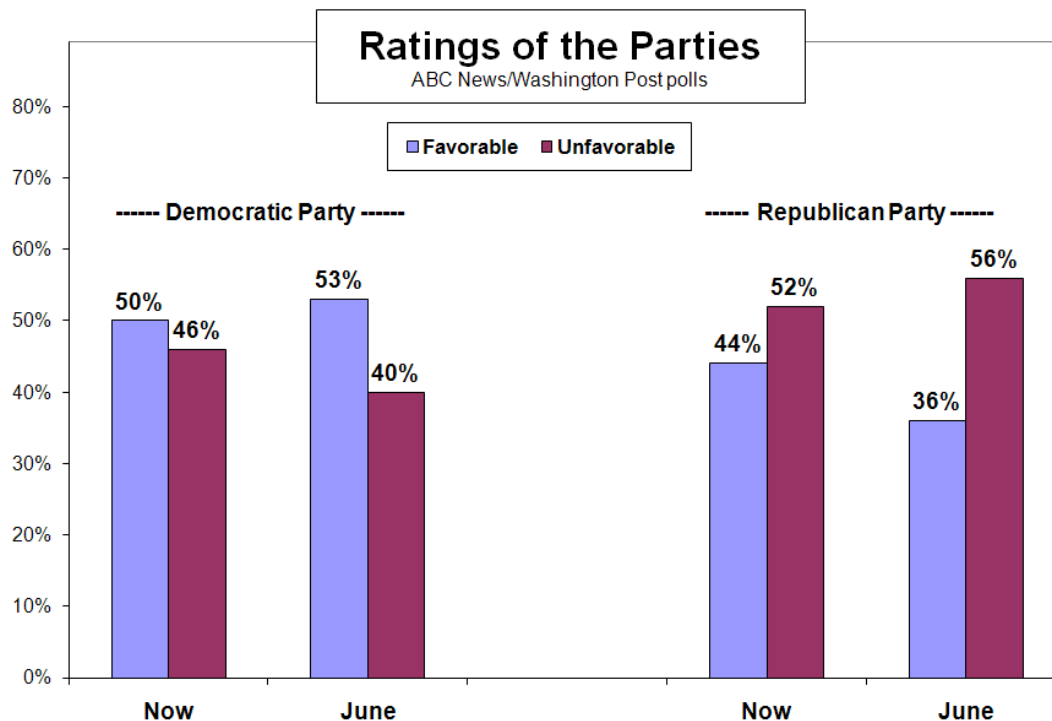
to be this complex to accomplish the desired goals. And the division is about the same on costs: Fifty-nine percent say the plan as it stands simply is too expensive.

Another barrier to reform is ongoing satisfaction with existing insurers. Whatever their concerns about future costs, coverage and the health system overall, among Americans who have private health insurance, a substantial majority, 74 percent, say they trust their insurance company to handle their claims fairly. And people who trust their insurer are much more likely to oppose the reform plan as it now stands.

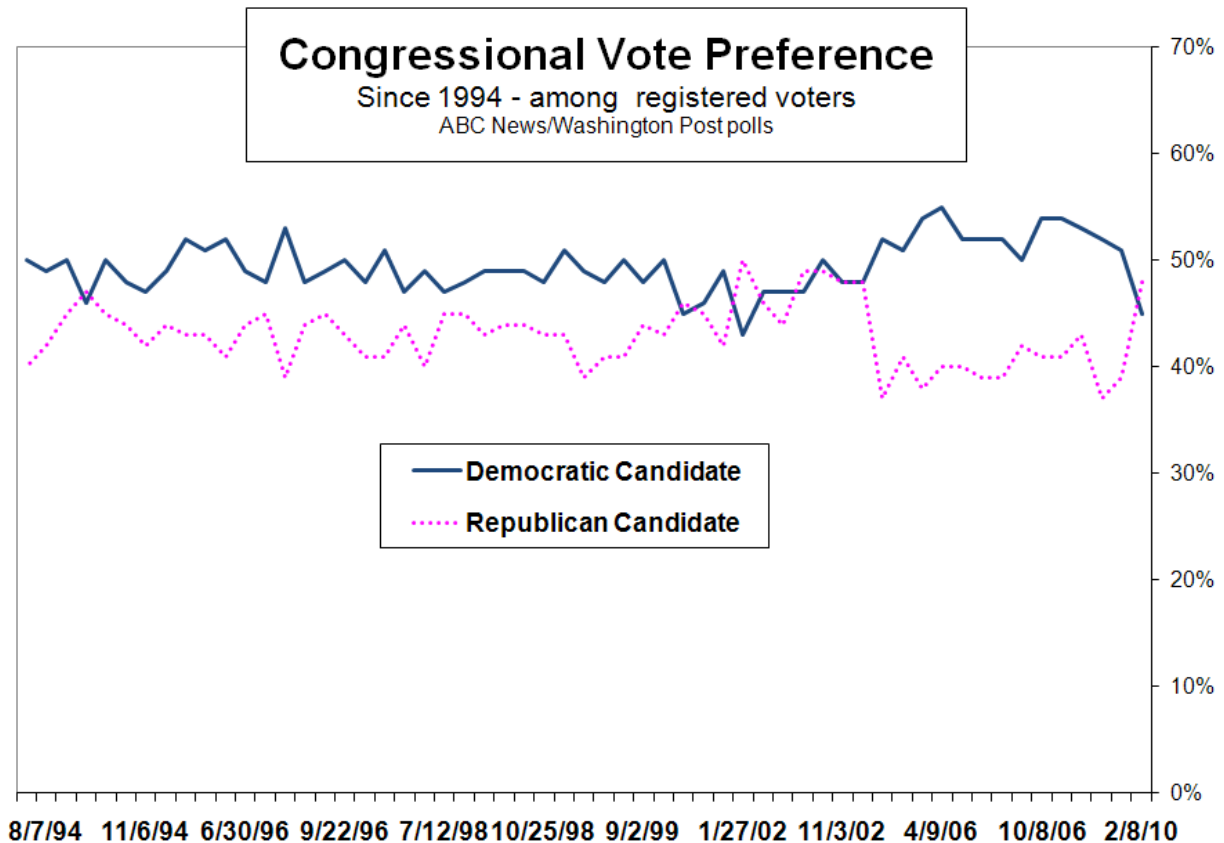
PROFILE and PARTY ID – The Democrats, then, have potential pushback against the GOP both in broad support for some sort of comprehensive health care reform, and in its related effort to tag the Republicans with the obstructionist label. The Democrats also have two other resources: A somewhat better general public profile, and a slight advantage in partisan affiliation. Both, though, have thinned considerably.

On the latter, 32 percent of Americans in this poll identify themselves as Democrats, 26 percent as Republicans, 39 percent as independents. While that produces a 6-point Democratic edge in affiliation, it compares with an 11-point Democratic margin on average in 2009. Moreover, asking independents which party they lean toward produces a close 49-45 percent Democratic-Republican division overall, compared with a 2009 average of 52-39 percent.

The edge in favorability – basic popularity – tells a similar story. Fifty percent of Americans see the Democratic Party favorably, 46 percent unfavorably. The Republican Party's ratings are weaker – 44 percent favorable, 52 percent unfavorable. But just since June, unfavorable ratings of the Democrats have gained 6 points – and favorable views of the GOP have gained 8.



NOVEMBER – It should be noted that vote preferences today don't predict those in November, and generic congressional preferences, in particular, don't reflect the idiosyncrasies of individual races across the country. That said, the current 48-45 percent split toward Republican candidates among registered voters, while not a statistically significant advantage, is unusual. Republicans have held a numerical advantage just six times in scores of ABC/Post polls since 1981.



The economy clearly hurts the in-party. Among Americans who see no sign of recovery yet, 55 percent describe themselves as generally anti-incumbent, 63 percent are disinclined to re-elect their own representative and, among those who are registered to vote, Republican candidates hold a 58-33 percent advantage in midterm election preferences.

Chilling for the Democrats, too, is the position of often swing-voting independents. They prefer the Republican over the Democrat in their congressional district by 51-35 percent (again, among those who are registered to vote). Sixty-seven percent of independents say they're inclined to look around for someone else rather than voting for the incumbent; it's nearly as high among Republicans, 60 percent, vs. just 41 percent among Democrats.

Similarly, 56 percent of independents call themselves anti-incumbent, about the same as its level among Republicans (55 percent), vs. just 34 percent of Democrats. And it cuts to vote: Anti-incumbents who are registered to vote favor the Republican over the Democrat in their

congressional district by 58-33 percent. Pro-incumbents favor the Democrats by a similar margin. But there are fewer of them.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Feb. 4-8, 2010, among a random national sample of 1,004 adults, including landline and cell-phone-only respondents. Results for the full sample have a 3.5-point error margin. Click [here](#) for a detailed description of sampling error. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by TNS of Horsham, PA.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>

Media contact: Cathie Levine, (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow (*= less than 0.5 percent).

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
2/8/10	51	29	22	46	12	33	3
1/15/10	53	30	24	44	13	32	2
12/13/09	50	31	18	46	13	33	4
11/15/09	56	32	23	42	13	29	2
10/18/09	57	33	23	40	11	29	3
9/12/09	54	35	19	43	12	31	3
8/17/09	57	35	21	40	11	29	3
7/18/09	59	38	22	37	9	28	4
6/21/09	65	36	29	31	10	22	4
4/24/09	69	42	27	26	8	18	4
3/29/09	66	40	26	29	9	20	5
2/22/09	68	43	25	25	8	17	7

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling [ITEM]? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

2/8/10 - Summary Table*

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
a. Health care	43	24	19	53	11	43	3
b. The economy	45	22	23	53	15	38	2
c. The federal budget deficit	40	17	23	56	16	40	4
d. Creating jobs	47	25	22	51	15	35	3
e. The threat of terrorism	56	28	28	39	14	25	5

Trend where available:

a. Health care

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion

2/8/10	43	24	19	53	11	43	3
1/15/10	44	24	21	52	9	43	4
12/13/09	44	27	18	53	10	43	3
11/15/09	47	28	19	49	8	41	3
10/18/09	48	30	18	48	10	38	4
9/12/09	48	32	15	48	10	38	4
8/17/09	46	27	19	50	8	42	5
7/18/09	49	25	24	44	11	33	7
6/21/09	53	27	26	39	10	29	9
4/24/09	57	NA	NA	29	NA	NA	13

b. The economy

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
2/8/10	45	22	23	53	15	38	2
1/15/10	47	22	24	52	13	39	1
12/13/09	46	23	24	52	12	40	2
11/15/09	51	26	25	47	12	36	2
10/18/09	50	29	22	48	13	35	1
9/12/09	51	28	24	46	13	33	2
8/17/09	52	27	25	46	13	33	2
7/18/09	52	29	23	46	10	35	3
6/21/09	56	28	28	41	13	27	3
4/24/09	58	31	28	38	13	25	4
3/29/09	60	34	25	38	12	26	3
2/22/09	60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6

c. The federal budget deficit

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
2/8/10	40	17	23	56	16	40	4
1/15/10	38	18	20	56	15	41	6
12/13/09	37	16	21	56	12	44	6
11/15/09	42	19	23	53	10	43	5
10/18/09	45	20	25	51	14	37	4
9/12/09	39	17	22	55	13	42	6
8/17/09	41	19	22	53	12	41	5
7/18/09	43	19	24	49	11	38	8
6/21/09	48	22	26	48	13	35	5
4/24/09	51	NA	NA	43	NA	NA	7
3/29/09	52	NA	NA	43	NA	NA	5

d. No trend.

e. The threat of terrorism

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
2/8/10	56	28	28	39	14	25	5
1/15/10	55	31	23	42	14	28	4
11/15/09	53	31	22	41	14	27	6
9/12/09	55	31	24	34	12	23	11
6/21/09	57	NA	NA	36	NA	NA	7
4/21/09*	57	NA	NA	26	NA	NA	17

*Pew

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is doing its job?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2/8/10	26	71	3

7/13/08	23	71	6
2/1/08	33	59	8
12/9/07	32	60	8
11/1/07	28	65	7
9/30/07	29	65	6
7/21/07	37	60	4
6/1/07	39	53	8
4/15/07*	44	54	3
2/25/07	41	54	5
1/19/07	43	50	8
12/11/06	37	57	6
11/4/06	RV 36	60	4
10/22/06	31	65	4
10/8/06	32	66	2
9/7/06	40	55	5
8/6/06	36	60	4
5/15/06	33	63	4
4/9/06	35	62	3
3/5/06	36	62	3
1/26/06	43	53	4
1/8/06	41	55	5
12/18/05	43	53	4
11/2/05	37	59	4
8/28/05	37	59	4
6/5/05	41	54	4
10/29/03	40	52	9
4/30/03	57	37	6
9/26/02	51	43	6
7/15/02	57	36	7
2/21/02	57	39	4
1/27/02	58	35	7
12/19/01	59	34	7
9/9/01	45	48	7
7/30/01	48	48	4
4/22/01	58	33	8
10/31/99	42	53	6
9/2/99	46	47	7
6/6/99	48	46	6
3/14/99	44	49	7
2/14/99	46	50	4
12/20/98	44	51	5
12/19/98	45	50	5
12/13/98	49	46	5
11/7/98	41	55	4
11/1/98	49	47	5
10/25/98	45	44	11
10/18/98	46	45	8
9/28/98	52	44	4
8/21/98	55	39	6
7/12/98	46	44	11
5/12/98	45	45	9
4/4/98	47	45	8
1/31/98	55	35	10
1/30/98	55	35	10
1/25/98	56	37	8
1/24/98	55	38	7
1/19/98	47	49	5
10/13/97	36	57	7
8/27/97	39	54	7
7/8/97	40	53	6
4/24/97	40	53	7
3/9/97	35	60	5
8/5/96	42	52	7

6/30/96	35	58	7
5/22/96	35	60	5
3/10/96	30	64	6
1/7/96	31	65	5
11/19/95	27	68	5
10/1/95	32	65	3
7/17/95	34	63	3
3/19/95	39	56	5
1/29/95	42	52	6
10/31/94	21	72	8
10/23/94	18	78	4
9/11/94	24	70	5
6/26/94	34	61	5
3/27/94	35	62	3
2/27/94	32	64	4
1/23/94	29	60	11

Call for full trend to 1974.

4. Overall, which party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job in coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years?

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	43	37	2	17	2
11/15/09	47	31	2	17	3
9/12/09	48	28	3	19	2
2/22/09	56	30	3	9	3
12/14/08	56	23	3	15	3
5/11/08	53	32	2	10	2
10/8/06	54	35	2	7	2
9/7/06	47	38	1	10	4
6/25/06	48	38	1	10	3
5/15/06	50	36	1	11	3
4/9/06	51	37	1	9	2
3/5/06	42	40	2	14	2
1/26/06	51	37	1	8	3
12/18/05	47	42	1	8	2
11/2/05	49	37	3	9	3
6/5/05	46	41	1	9	2
8/11/03	39	40	3	10	7
12/15/02	41	44	2	11	2
10/27/02 LV	39	51	2	5	2
9/26/02	39	46	3	8	4
7/15/02	42	45	2	7	4
1/27/02	40	44	3	10	4
4/22/01	47	40	4	7	3
7/23/00	42	42	2	9	6
9/2/99	45	39	4	9	4
6/6/99	45	35	3	13	5
3/14/99	47	37	5	9	3
2/14/99	48	37	4	7	4
10/18/98	44	36	3	12	6
9/28/98	49	38	2	8	3
8/21/98	48	36	4	9	3
7/12/98	45	38	3	8	6
1/31/98	47	37	4	6	7
1/19/98	45	42	2	7	4
7/8/97	44	37	2	14	3
9/15/96 RV	45	38	3	11	3
8/5/96	43	38	3	11	3
6/30/96	46	37	3	12	3
5/22/96	47	38	3	10	3

11/6/94	RV	41	39	2	12	6
10/31/94		43	43	2	8	4
10/23/94		39	40	3	15	3
9/11/94		43	40	4	11	3
6/26/94		41	36	3	14	5
2/27/94		46	32	4	16	3

Call for full trend to 1982.

5. Who do you trust to do a better job handling [ITEM] - (Obama) or (the Republicans in Congress)?

2/8/10 - Summary Table*

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. The economy	47	42	1	7	2
b. Health care reform	46	41	1	9	2
c. The federal budget deficit	45	43	1	9	1
d. The threat of terrorism	47	42	2	6	2
e. Creating jobs	48	41	2	8	2

Trend where available:

a. The economy

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	47	42	1	7	2
11/15/09	52	37	1	8	1
9/12/09	48	37	1	12	2
7/18/09	56	33	1	9	2
6/21/09	55	31	2	9	2
4/24/09	61	24	2	11	2
3/29/09	58	25	1	14	2
2/22/09	61	26	1	9	3

b. Health care reform

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	46	41	1	9	2
11/15/09	50	37	1	10	2
9/12/09	48	36	1	12	3
7/18/09	54	34	1	10	1
6/21/09	55	27	2	11	4

c. The federal budget deficit

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	45	43	1	9	1
9/12/09	50	36	1	12	1
7/18/09	54	35	*	9	2
6/21/09	56	30	2	9	2

d. The threat of terrorism

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	47	42	2	6	2
9/12/09	49	39	2	7	3

6/21/09	55	34	2	6	3
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e. No trend.

6. Republicans now hold enough seats in the U.S. Senate to block any legislation Obama and the Senate Democrats propose. Overall, do you think this is (a good thing because it will force Obama and the Democrats to cooperate more with the Republicans); OR (a bad thing because it will enable the Republicans to set terms before allowing anything to go forward)?

	Good	Bad	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	57	36	3	3

7. How often do you think Republicans in the Senate should use their power to block legislation proposed by Obama and the Senate Democrats - almost always, a great deal of the time, just some of the time or rarely?

	----- Often -----			----- Not often -----					
	NET	Almost always	Great deal	NET	Just some	Rarely	Never (vol.)	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	25	10	15	68	49	16	2	6	2

8. Do you think Obama is doing too (much), too (little) or about the right amount to compromise with the Republican leaders in Congress on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
2/8/10	9	44	45	2

9. Do you think the Republican leaders in Congress are doing too (much), too (little) or about the right amount to compromise with Obama on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
2/8/10	8	58	30	4

10. Changing topics, many economists say that using the standards they apply, the recession probably is over. Thinking about your own experience of economic conditions, would you say that from your point of view the recession is over, or not over?

	Over	Not over	No opinion
2/8/10	12	88	1
12/13/09	13	86	1
10/18/09	16	82	1

11. Regardless of whether or not the recession is over, in terms of your own personal experience, do you feel the economy has or has not begun to recover?

	Has	Has not	No opinion
2/8/10	45	53	1
12/13/09*	50	49	1
11/15/09	44	54	1

*Add "Regardless of whether or not the recession is over..."

11a. (IF NOT BEGUN TO RECOVER) When do you think the economy will begin to recover - in the next few months, in six months to a year, or do you think it'll be longer than that?

	Next few months	Six months to a year	Longer than that	No opinion
2/8/10	1	25	72	2
12/13/09	*	16	82	1
11/15/09	4	19	77	1

11/11A NET:

	---- Economy has not begun recovery ---					
	Has	NET	Will in next few months	In 6 mos. to a year	Longer	No opinion
2/8/10	45	53	1	13	38	1
12/13/09	50	49	*	8	40	1
11/15/09	44	54	2	10	41	1

11b. (IF HAS BEGUN TO RECOVER) Do you think the economy's recovery so far has been a strong one or a weak one?

	Strong	Weak	No opinion
2/8/10	25	75	1
12/13/09	24	73	3

11/11B NET:

	- Recovery's begun-				
	NET	Strong	Weak	Has not	No opinion
2/8/10	45	11	34	53	1
12/13/09	50	12	36	49	1

12-14 held for release.

15. On another subject: overall, given what you know about them, would you say you support or oppose the proposed changes to the health care system being developed by (Congress) and (the Obama administration)? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
2/8/10	46	22	25	49	11	38	5
1/15/10	44	22	22	51	12	39	5
12/13/09	44	25	19	51	11	40	5
11/15/09	48	30	18	49	10	39	3
10/18/09	45	26	19	48	12	36	7
9/12/09	46	30	16	48	12	36	6
8/17/09	45	27	18	50	10	40	5

16. Do you think the proposed changes to the health care system are too complicated, or do you think the changes have to be this complex to accomplish what they're trying to do?

	Too complicated	Have to be this complex	No opinion
2/8/10	60	35	5

17. Do you think the proposed changes to the health care system are too expensive, or do you think the cost is about right for what they're trying to do?

	Too expensive	Cost is about right	No opinion
2/8/10	59	34	7

18. Do you think the government should or should not (ITEM)? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

2/8/10 - Summary Table

	-----	Should	----	--	Should not	---	No
	NET	Strg.	Smwt.	NET	Smwt.	Strg.	op.
a. Require businesses to offer private health insurance for their full-time employees	72	56	16	27	9	18	1
b. Require all Americans to have health insurance, either from their employer or from another source, with tax credits or other aid to help low-income people pay for it	56	41	15	43	10	33	2
c. Require insurance companies to sell coverage to people regardless of pre-existing conditions	80	67	13	19	7	12	2

Trend where available:

a. Require businesses to offer private health insurance for their full-time employees

	-----	Should	-----	-----	Should not	-----	No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	opinion
2/8/10	72	56	16	27	9	18	1
9/12/06	79	69	10	19	7	12	2

b. Require all Americans to have health insurance, either from their employer or from another source, with tax credits or other aid to help low-income people pay for it

	-----	Should	-----	-----	Should not	-----	No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	opinion
2/8/10	56	41	15	43	10	33	2
9/12/06	65	35	29	32	14	18	3

c. No trend.

19. Do you think lawmakers in Washington should (keep trying to pass) a comprehensive health care reform plan, or should (give up on) comprehensive health care reform?

	Keep trying to pass	Give up on	No opinion
2/8/10	63	34	4

20. Regardless of your own preference, given what you've heard, do you think a comprehensive health care reform plan (has a chance of becoming law this year), or do you think health care reform (is dead)?

	Has a chance of becoming law this year	Is dead	No opinion
2/8/10	48	46	5

20a. (IF HEALTH CARE REFORM IS DEAD) Who do you think is mainly responsible for that - (Obama), (the Democrats in Congress), or (the Republicans in Congress)?

	Obama	Dems in Congress	Reps in Congress	Combined (vol.)	All (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	17	28	34	6	12	3

20/20a NET:

				----- Is dead/who's responsible? -----							
				Has chance of becoming law	NET	Obama	Dems in Congress	Reps in Congress	Comb. (vol.)	All (vol.)	No op.
2/8/10				48	46	8	13	16	3	5	5

21. Do you have some form of health insurance or health care coverage, or not?

21a. (AMONG THOSE WITH HEALTH CARE COVERAGE) Are you mainly covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or do you have private medical insurance? (IF NEEDED: Medicare is the government health insurance program for people 65 and over. Medicaid is the government health insurance program for low-income families.)

				----- Have health insurance -----					No insurance	No opinion
				NET	M/care	M/caid	Private	Oth.(v.)		*
2/8/10	Gen Pop	83	15		3	62	NA	17		

Call for full trend to 1995.

21b. (AMONG THOSE WITH PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE) How much do you trust your insurance company to handle your claims fairly - a great deal, a good amount, just some or hardly at all?

				----- Some/Hardly/None -----					No		
				NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Just some	Hardly at all	None (vol.)	opinion
2/8/10	74	37	37	26	18	7	1				*

22. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of [ITEM]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

2/8/10 - Summary Table

				----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No op.
				NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
a.	The Democratic Party			50	24	26	46	17	28	4
b.	The Republican Party			44	19	25	52	23	29	4
c.	held for release.									

Trend:

a. The Democratic Party

	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opinion
2/8/10	50	46	4
6/21/09	53	40	6
8/22/08	58	36	5
11/1/07	51	45	5
3/5/06	55	41	4
6/5/05	51	47	2
12/15/02	56	37	6
1/27/02	56	36	8

7/30/01	60	36	4
12/15/00	64	25	11
1/16/00	56	35	9
1/10/00*	61	33	6
1/10/00 LV	58	37	5
11/21/99	51	41	8
5/2/99	53	37	10
2/21/99	55	37	8
2/13/99	56	38	6
2/8/99	57	37	6
1/10/99	57	35	8
12/20/98	57	30	13
12/16/98	58	32	10
10/29/97	54	39	7
9/1/96 RV	60	36	4
8/18/96 RV	55	41	4
8/7/96 RV	57	38	5
4/10/96	55	38	7
4/19/95	51	43	6
7/8/92 RV	54	38	8
6/6/91**	52	34	14
4/2/90	54	35	11
1/15/90	58	32	10
11/16/88	54	36	10
11/4/84	47	42	11
10/4/84 RV	50	39	11

*1/10/00 to 7/8/92: Gallup

**6/6/91 and previous: CBS News/New York Times

b. The Republican Party

	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opinion
2/8/10	44	52	4
6/21/09	36	56	8
8/22/08 RV	47	49	4
11/1/07	39	56	5
3/5/06	51	46	3
6/5/05	49	49	2
12/15/02	56	38	5
1/27/02	63	30	7
7/30/01	51	46	3
12/15/00	54	35	11
1/16/00	53	37	10
1/10/00*	53	41	6
1/10/00 LV	56	39	5
11/21/99	50	44	6
5/2/99	47	44	9
2/21/99	45	46	9
2/13/99	40	54	5
2/8/99	45	47	8
1/10/99	40	52	8
12/20/98	31	57	12
12/16/98	43	47	10
10/29/97	50	42	8
9/1/96 RV	50	45	5
8/18/96 RV	55	41	4
8/7/96 RV	51	44	5
4/10/96	52	41	7
4/19/95	52	42	6
7/8/92 RV	53	39	8
6/6/91**	62	28	10
4/2/90	58	34	8
1/15/90	63	28	9

11/16/88	57	34	9
11/4/84	58	33	9
10/4/84	53	36	11

*1/10/00 to 7/8/92: Gallup
 **6/6/91 and previous: CBS News/New York Times

23-32 held for release.

33. On another subject, would you rather have suspects accused of involvement in the September 11 terrorist attacks put on trial in (the federal court system in the United States), or in (a military tribunal set up for that purpose)?

	Federal court system	Military tribunal	Either (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	39	55	2	3
11/15/09	47	48	2	3

34-35 held for release.

36. Thinking about politics: Right now, are you inclined to vote to re-elect your representative in Congress in the next election or are you inclined to look around for someone else to vote for?

	Re-elect	Look around	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	36	56	4	4
11/15/09	38	50	6	5
5/15/06	35	55	6	4
6/5/05	40	50	8	3
2/21/02	40	48	7	6
10/31/99	41	47	8	3
9/28/98	44	46	NA	10
9/28/98 LV	52	42	NA	6
7/12/98	42	44	5	10
1/19/98	47	41	7	4
8/27/97	34	52	9	5
11/6/94 RV	37	47	7	8
10/31/94	35	56	2	7
10/23/94	32	58	4	6
9/11/94	36	53	4	7
6/26/94	35	54	6	5
3/27/94	32	56	6	7
1/23/94	32	46	10	12
11/14/93	38	52	5	5
8/21/92	35	48	5	12
7/8/92	34	54	3	9
6/7/92	36	53	4	7
4/9/92	33	56	3	8
3/18/92	35	56	3	5
3/11/92	36	54	3	7
2/2/92	38	51	4	7
10/21/91	31	55	7	6
6/2/91	37	49	5	9
11/4/90 LV	41	50	NA	8
10/14/90	36	57	NA	7
5/21/90	43	50	3	3
5/23/89	45	44	4	6

37. If the election for the U.S. House of Representatives in November were being held today, would you vote for (the Democratic candidate) or (the Republican candidate) in your congressional district? (IF OTHER, NEITHER, DK, REF) Would you lean toward the (Democratic candidate) or toward the (Republican candidate)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE

		Dem cand.	Rep cand.	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Will not vote (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	All	46	46	*	3	1	4
	RV	45	48	*	3	*	4
10/18/09	All	51	39	1	3	2	5
6/15/08	All	52	37	*	2	1	8
11/4/06	LV	51	45	1	1	*	2
	RV	53	43	1	1	*	3
10/22/06	RV	54	41	*	1	*	3
10/8/06	RV	54	41	*	1	1	3
9/7/06	RV	50	42	*	3	2	4
8/6/06	RV	52	39	*	2	1	5
6/25/06	RV	52	39	1	3	1	4
5/15/06	RV	52	40	1	3	1	4
4/9/06	RV	55	40	*	2	*	3
1/26/06	RV	54	38	1	3	1	5
12/18/05	RV	51	41	1	3	1	4
11/2/05	RV	52	37	1	4	2	6
11/4/02	LV	48	48	1	1	0	2
11/3/02	LV	48	48	*	1	0	2
11/2/02	LV	50	49	*	1	0	2
10/27/02	LV	47	49	1	1	0	3
9/26/02	LV	49	47	1	2	0	2
	RV	47	44	2	3	2	3
7/15/02	RV	47	46	1	1	1	4
1/27/02*	RV	43	50	NA	2	1	5
9/6/00	RV	49	42		2	1	6
7/23/00	RV	46	45		3	1	5
2/27/00	RV	45	46		2	1	5
10/31/99	RV	50	43		3	1	3
9/2/99	RV	48	44		3	*	5
3/14/99	RV	50	41		2	1	6
2/14/99	RV	48	41		3	1	7
1/30/99	RV	49	39		8	1	3
11/1/98	RV	51	43		4	*	2
10/25/98	RV	48	43		3	1	4
10/18/98	RV	49	44		3	1	4
9/28/98	RV	49	44		2	*	4
9/13/98	RV	49	43		3	1	4
8/21/98	RV	48	45		3	1	3
7/12/98	RV	47	45		2	*	6
1/31/98	RV	49	40		2	1	8
1/19/98	RV	47	44		3	1	5
10/8/96	RV	51	41		2	1	5
9/29/96	RV	48	41		3	1	7
9/22/96	RV	50	43		2	1	4
9/15/96	RV	49	45		1	1	4
9/4/96	RV	48	44		3	*	5
8/29/96**	RV	53	39		3	1	5
8/4/96	RV	48	45		2	1	4
6/30/96	RV	49	44		3	*	3
5/22/96	RV	52	41		3	1	3
3/10/96	RV	51	43		2	*	4
1/21/96	RV	52	43		3	1	1
10/1/95	RV	49	44		3	*	3
11/6/94	RV	47	42		5	2	5

10/31/94	RV	48	44	4	1	3
10/23/94	RV	50	45	2	1	2
10/9/94	RV	46	47	3	2	2
9/11/94	RV	50	45	1	1	4
8/7/94	RV	49	42	4	1	4
2/27/94	RV	50	40	8	1	2
10/21/91	RV	51	41	4	*	4
7/28/91	RV	49	41	6	*	3
6/2/91	RV	48	42	4	1	5
11/4/90	RV	51	41	5	*	3
10/14/90	RV	50	41	5	*	3
9/9/90	RV	47	46	3	*	3
7/24/90	RV	51	41	4	1	4
5/21/90	RV	47	45	5	1	2
10/10/88	RV	52	41	2	1	4
9/19/88	RV	51	39	3	1	6
6/22/85	RV	48	44	5	*	3
10/16/84	RV	52	44	2	NA	5
9/11/84	RV	53	45	2	NA	1
7/8/84	RV	58	40	2	NA	1
10/27/82	RV	58	39	NA	NA	3
10/11/82	RV	55	36	NA	NA	9
9/13/82	RV	58	36	NA	NA	6
11/22/81	RV	53	41	NA	NA	7

*1/27/02 and previous: No "other candidate" option recorded

**Call for 1996 daily tracking

38. Generally would you say your mood is anti-incumbent, meaning you're inclined to vote for challengers who are running for public office, or would you say your mood is pro-incumbent, meaning you're inclined to vote to re-elect people already in public office?

	Anti- incumbent	Pro- incumbent	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/8/10	48	35	12	5
8/6/06	53	29	13	4
6/25/94	54	29	13	4

39-42 held for release.

END