

CNN **POLL**

Interviews with 1,047 adult Americans conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on August 2-3, 2006. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points and for results based on half-samples is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9 AT 4 PM

Thinking for a moment about the elections for Congress next year,

2. If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your Congressional district -- the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (IF UNDECIDED) As of today, do you lean more toward the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (RESPONSES ROTATED)

	<u>August 2-3</u>	<u>June 14-15</u>	<u>May 5-7</u>	<u>April 21-23</u>
REGISTERED VOTERS				
Democrat	53%	45%	52%	50%
Republican	40%	38%	38%	40%
Other (vol.)	3%	4%	3%	3%
No opinion	4%	12%	7%	6%
ALL AMERICANS				
Democrat	51%	44%	50%	50%
Republican	40%	36%	37%	38%
Other (vol.)	2%	4%	3%	4%
No opinion	7%	15%	10%	7%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Democratic candidate</u>	<u>Republican candidate</u>	<u>Undecided/ other</u>
<u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u>			
2006 Mar 10-12	55	39	7
2006 Feb 28-Mar 1	53	39	7
2006 Feb 9-12	50	43	8
2006 Jan 6-8	49	43	8
2005 Oct 21-23	50	43	7
2005 Aug 28-30	53	41	6
<u>ALL AMERICANS</u>			
2006 Mar 10-12	54	38	8
2006 Feb 28-Mar 1	52	39	10
2006 Feb 9-12	49	42	9
2006 Jan 6-8	49	42	9
2005 Oct 21-23	50	42	8
2005 Aug 28-30	52	41	7

3. Would you say you will definitely vote for the Republican/Democrat, or is it possible you would change your mind between now and the election?

	<u>Reg. Voters</u>	<u>All Americans</u>
Definitely will not change mind	49%	46%
Might change mind	49%	52%
No opinion	2%	2%

	<u>Voters Who Currently Support Democratic Candidate for Congress</u>	<u>Voters Who Currently Support Republican Candidate for Congress</u>
Definitely will not change mind	56%	43%
Might change mind	43%	54%
No opinion	1%	3%

QUESTION 2 AND QUESTION 3 COMBINED:

	<u>Reg. Voters</u>	<u>All Americans</u>
Definitely voting for Democrat	32%	29%
Plan to vote Democrat, but could change mind	21%	22%
Definitely voting for Republican	18%	18%
Plan to vote Republican, but could change mind	22%	22%
Other (vol.)	3%	2%
No opinion	4%	7%

4. How important will each of the following issues be to your vote for Congress this year -- will it be -- extremely important, very important, moderately important, or not that important? (ROTATE)

	<u>Extremely Important</u>	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Moderately Important</u>	<u>Not that Important</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Terrorism	48%	36%	10%	6%	*
Gas prices	47%	31%	16%	6%	*
The situation in Iraq	45%	41%	9%	4%	1%
The economy	40%	42%	15%	3%	*
Immigration	33%	34%	25%	8%	*
The conflict between Israel and Hezbollah in the Middle East	31%	32%	24%	11%	1%
The minimum wage	29%	30%	28%	12%	1%
The government's new prescription plan for senior citizens	28%	36%	22%	11%	3%
The cost of electricity	24%	35%	30%	11%	*
Same-sex marriages	23%	20%	18%	38%	2%
Stem cell research	23%	30%	29%	14%	4%

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	<u>Extremely important</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Moderately important</u>	<u>Not that important</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
The economy					
2006 Jan 6-8	38	45	14	1	1
2005 Oct 21-23	43	41	15	1	*
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	37	44	17	2	*
2002 Aug 19-21 ^	34	44	17	3	2
^ WORDING: Economic conditions					
Terrorism					
2006 Jan 6-8	45	35	16	3	1
2005 Oct 21-23	45	32	19	4	*
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	47	36	13	3	1
^ Asked of a half sample.					
The situation in Iraq					
2006 Jan 6-8	45	40	11	3	1
2005 Oct 21-23	44	37	13	4	2
Gas prices					
2006 Jan 6-8	33	33	26	8	1
2005 Oct 21-23	41	29	22	8	*
Immigration					
2006 Jan 6-8	26	35	29	9	1

5. How well are things going in the country today?

	<u>August 2-3</u>	<u>May 5-7</u>
Very well	8%	8%
Fairly well	47%	38%
Pretty badly	29%	33%
Very badly	15%	20%
No opinion	*	2%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Pretty badly</u>	<u>Very badly</u>	<u>No opinion</u>	<i>Very/fairly well</i>	<i>Very/pretty badly</i>
2006 Feb 9-12	5	47	33	14	1	52	47
2005 Nov 11-13	5	44	32	18	1	49	50
2005 Sep 8-11 ^	6	44	36	14	*	50	50
2005 Jul 22-24	9	49	28	13	1	58	41
2005 Apr 1-2	9	52	28	10	1	61	38
2005 Jan 7-9	8	50	28	13	1	58	41
2004 Oct 29-31 ^	12	43	27	17	1	55	44
2004 Oct 9-10	8	46	33	13	*	54	46

^ Asked of a half sample.

Trend Continued on the Next Page

CNN/TIME TRENDS

	Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly
2004 May 12-13	60	39	2000 Oct 25-26	79	19	1998 Jan 14-15	65	32
2004 Apr 8	63	36	2000 Oct 12-13	76	22	1997 Oct 30	67	31
2004 Feb 5-6	52	47	2000 Oct 4-5	77	22	1997 Sep 10-11	63	34
2004 Jan 14-15	53	46	2000 Sep 6-7	79	19	1997 Jul 30-31	69	29
2003 Dec 30-Jan 1	49	49	2000 Aug 9-10	77	21	1997 Jun 4-5	64	34
2003 Nov 18-19	52	46	2000 Jul 26-27	74	24	1997 May 7-8	63	35
2003 Sep 3-4	49	49	2000 Jun 14-15	72	27	1997 Apr 16-17	62	37
2003 Jul 16-17	57	42	2000 Mar 8-9	76	22	1997 Mar 11-12	57	41
2003 May 21-22	60	39	2000 Feb 2-3	78	17	1997 Feb 26-27	64	35
2003 Mar 27	63	36	2000 Jan 12-13	81	19	1997 Feb 5-6	67	33
2003 Feb 19-20	52	47	2000 Jan 5-6	80	19	1997 Jan 8-9	63	35
2003 Feb 6	53	46	1999 Nov 10-11	68	30	1996 Oct	67	32
2003 Jan 15-16	49	49	1999 Jul 14-15	70	28	1996 Jun	61	37
2002 Dec 17-18	54	45	1999 Jun 9-10	69	31	1996 Jun	62	37
2002 Nov 13-14	56	42	1999 May 26-27	61	37	1996 Feb	53	44
2002 Oct 23-24	49	49	1999 Mar 25	70	29	1996 Jan	48	50
2002 Aug 28-29	57	41	1999 Mar 4	73	26	1996 Jan	48	50
2002 Jul 10-11	59	39	1999 Jan 20-21	77	22	1995 Dec	54	44
2002 Jun 19-20	57	41	1999 Jan 7	74	25	1995 Oct	46	52
2002 May 22-23	64	35	1998 Dec 17-18	60	38	1995 Oct	47	51
2002 Apr 10-11	61	38	1998 Oct 14-15	78	21	1995 Sep	50	49
2002 Mar 13-14	69	29	1998 Sep 23-24	72	26	1995 Sep	50	49
2002 Jan 23-24	66	34	1998 Sep 16-17	72	25	1995 Aug	47	52
2001 Dec 19-20	64	34	1998 Aug 18	77	21	1995 Jul	51	47
2001 Nov 7-8	63	35	1998 Jul 30	68	31	1995 Jun	53	47
2001 Oct 12	65	33	1998 Jun 30-Jul 1	67	31	1995 Jun	45	51
2001 Sep 27	59	38	1998 Jun 26-Jul 5	55	44	1995 May	50	49
2001 Sep 13	45	53	1998 May 18-19	66	30	1995 Apr	46	52
2001 Jul 17-18	70	29	1998 Apr 8-9	70	30	1995 Mar	52	46
2001 May 23-24	65	33	1998 Mar 18-19	76	25	1995 Mar	49	48
2001 Feb 7-8	71	28	1998 Feb 4-5	74	25	1995 Feb	54	44
2001 Jan 10-11	73	24	1998 Jan 28-29	79	19	1995 Jan	58	41
2000 Nov 10	74	25	1998 Jan 22	68	31	1995 Jan	56	43

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CNN/TIME TRENDS (continued)

	Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly
1995 Jan	54	44	1992 Feb	35	62	1985 Sep	67	33
1994 Dec	55	44	1992 Jan	29	71	1985 Jul	70	31
1994 Nov	49	48	1992 Jan	35	64	1985 Apr	69	32
1994 Oct	50	49	1992 Jan	36	64	1984 Dec	74	26
1994 Oct	51	47	1991 Dec	29	71	1984 Oct	74	26
1994 Sep	45	53	1991 Nov	36	64	1984 Sep	71	30
1994 Sep	46	53	1991 Oct	42	56	1984 Aug	68	32
1994 Sep	42	57	1991 Oct	42	58	1984 Jan	67	32
1994 Aug	42	58	1991 Sep	49	49	1983 Dec	60	40
1994 Aug	45	52	1991 Aug	53	47	1983 Sep	56	45
1994 Aug	49	50	1991 Jun	53	47	1983 Jun	58	41
1994 Jul	51	48	1991 May	53	47	1983 Mar	46	55
1994 Jun	49	49	1991 Apr	56	42	1982 Dec	35	65
1994 Jun	56	41	1991 Apr	59	41	1982 Oct	40	60
1994 May	48	51	1991 Mar	74	26	1982 Jun	40	60
1994 May	49	50	1991 Feb	58	42	1982 Mar	39	62
1994 Apr	47	52	1991 Jan	39	61	1981 Dec	43	58
1994 Apr	53	44	1990 Dec	45	55	1981 Sep	53	47
1994 Mar	48	49	1990 Nov	42	58	1981 May	51	50
1994 Mar	49	50	1990 Oct	38	62	1981 Jan	26	74
1994 Feb	47	51	1990 Oct	41	59	1980 Oct	32	68
1994 Jan	52	47	1990 Oct	42	58	1980 Aug	30	70
1993 Dec	48	50	1990 Sep	52	48	1980 May	21	79
1993 Nov	45	54	1990 Aug	55	45	1980 Mar	24	76
1993 Oct	40	58	1990 Jul	55	45	1980 Jan	34	65
1993 Oct	39	58	1990 May	61	37	1979 Dec	36	64
1993 Oct	41	59	1990 Apr	62	38	1979 Oct	36	68
1993 Sep	47	52	1990 Mar	62	38	1979 Aug	31	70
1993 Sep	42	57	1990 Feb	70	30	1979 Apr	36	65
1993 Aug	39	58	1990 Jan	67	33	1978 Oct	56	44
1993 Aug	41	57	1989 Oct	62	38	1978 May	49	51
1993 Jun	41	56	1989 Jun	61	39	1978 Mar	53	47
1993 May	40	58	1989 Jan	69	31	1977 Nov	64	35
1993 May	43	56	1988 Oct	70	31	1977 Jul	69	31
1993 Apr	45	53	1988 Sep	73	27	1977 May	65	35
1993 Mar	48	50	1988 Apr	64	40	1977 Mar	69	31
1993 Feb	48	49	1988 Mar	65	33	1976 Oct	56	44
1993 Feb	48	49	1988 Feb	60	37	1976 Sep	57	44
1993 Jan	53	45	1988 Jan	62	38	1976 Aug	60	40
1993 Jan	47	52	1987 Oct	58	42	1976 Jun	50	50
1992 Oct	35	65	1987 Aug	61	39	1976 Apr	52	48
1992 Sep	32	68	1987 May	64	37	1976 Jan	46	55
1992 Aug	35	63	1987 Feb	61	40	1975 May	40	61
1992 Jul	31	67	1987 Jan	61	39	1975 Jan	23	78
1992 Jun	35	62	1986 Sep	63	37	1974 Sep	30	70
1992 Jun	33	65	1986 Jul	69	31	1974 Mar	29	71
1992 May	30	68	1986 May	65	34			
1992 Apr	33	65	1986 Apr	67	32			
1992 Mar	33	66	1985 Nov	70	31			

QUESTIONS 9 AND 10 ROTATED

9. Do you think the policies being proposed by the Republican leaders in the U.S. House and Senate would move the country in the right direction or the wrong direction? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE)

August 2-3

Right direction	43%
Wrong direction	43%
No opinion	15%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Right direction</u>	<u>Wrong direction</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2006 Jan 6-8	40	50	10
2005 Feb 4-6	50	36	14
2001 Aug 24-26	49	38	13
1999 Oct 8-10	54	35	11
1998 Nov 13-15	43	40	17
1998 Oct 23-25	47	33	20
1998 Jul 7-8	43	28	29
1997 Dec 18-21	44	36	20
1997 Apr 18-20	46	39	15
1996 Apr 9-10	45	41	14
1995 Dec 15-18	44	44	12
1995 Nov 6-8	44	41	15
1995 Sep 22-24	41	44	15
1995 Mar 27-29	53	37	10
1995 Feb 24-26	52	33	15
1994 Nov 28-29	55	27	18

1994-1999: Asked as a stand alone question.

10. Do you think the policies being proposed by the Democratic leaders in the U.S. House and Senate would move the country in the right direction or the wrong direction? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE)

August 2-3

Right direction	41%
Wrong direction	44%
No opinion	15%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Right direction</u>	<u>Wrong direction</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2006 Jan 6-8	44	43	14
2005 Feb 4-6	41	43	16
2002 Nov 8-10	47	36	17
2001 Aug 24-26	51	36	13

11. Since the start of 1995 when Republicans took control of Congress, in general, would you say the Republican Congress has been a success or a failure? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE)

August 2-3

Success	40%
Failure	54%
No opinion	6%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Success</u>	<u>Failure</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
1998 Apr 17-19	58	30	12
1997 Oct 27-29	46	41	13
1996 Sep 23-25*	44	37	19
1996 Aug 30-Sep 1*	48	43	9
1996 Aug 16-18*	51	41	8
1996 Aug 5-7	49	42	9
1996 May 9-12	43	49	8
1995 Aug 28-30	52	35	13
1995 Apr 17-19	54	35	11
1994 Mar 27-29	52	35	13

* Registered voters