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*The Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard University*

# **Survey of Political Independents**

*July 2007*

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## Methodology

*The Washington Post*/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard University Survey Project is a three-way partnership and an experiment in combining survey research and reporting to better inform the public. The Post, Kaiser, and Harvard jointly design and analyze surveys examining public knowledge, perceptions, and misperceptions on major issues. The Post then reports the results as well as facts to dispel myths and misperceptions. Our hope is that this project contributes to a better understanding of public knowledge on major issues facing the country as well as more effective efforts by the media to educate, inform, and engage citizens in national debates.

The *Survey of Political Independents*, the 16<sup>th</sup> in this partnership series, was conducted by telephone from May 3 to June 3, 2007 among 2,140 randomly selected adults nationwide, including an oversample of randomly selected self-identified independents. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Results are weighted to adjust for the additional interviews, and to ensure the data are reflective of the demographics of the actual adult population in terms of age, race, sex, education, and region. Results are not weighted to any external estimate of party ID. The table below shows the number of interviews and margin of sampling error for key subgroups.

<i>Population</i>	<i>Number interviewed</i>	<i>Margin of sampling error</i>
Total	2,140	± 3 percentage points
Independents	1,014	± 4 percentage points
Democrats	542	± 5 percentage points
Republicans	462	± 5 percentage points

Representatives of The Washington Post, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and Harvard University worked together to develop the survey questionnaire and analyze the results. Each organization bears the sole responsibility for the work that appears under its name. The project team included Jon Cohen, *The Washington Post* director of polling and Jennifer Agiesta, polling analyst; Drew E. Altman, president of the Kaiser Family Foundation, Mollyann Brodie, vice president and director of public opinion and media research, and Elizabeth Hamel, associate director of public opinion and media research; and Robert J. Blendon, professor of health policy and political analysis at the Harvard School of Public Health and the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and John M. Benson, managing director of the Harvard Opinion Research Program in the Harvard School of Public Health. Telephone interviews were carried out by ICR/International Communications Research.

Please note: (1) Table percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. (2) Values less than 0.5% are indicated by an asterisk (\*). (3) “Vol” indicates that a response was volunteered by the respondent and not an explicitly offered choice. (4) Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll

1. What one issue or problem would you say is most important for the president and Congress to address at this time? Is there a second issue that you think is almost as important for the president and Congress to address? (OPEN-ENDED)

First mention

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
54	48	66	50	Iraq/War in Iraq
11	11	9	12	Immigration/illegal immigration
5	5	6	5	Health care
5	7	3	6	Gas prices/Energy
5	7	4	5	Economic issues
3	3	2	4	Frustration with government/Corruption
2	3	3	3	Education/schools
2	3	1	3	Terrorism/National security
1	1	1	*	Budget deficit/national debt
1	1	--	3	Morality issues
1	2	1	1	Environmental issues/pollution/global warming
1	2	1	2	Foreign affairs/not Iraq
1	1	*	1	Taxes
*	1	--	*	Social Security
*	*	--	*	Crime/violence
*	*	*	--	Seniors/retirement issues (not Medicare)
1	1	1	2	Nothing
2	2	*	2	Other
3	2	3	2	Don't know/Refused

Total Mentions

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
70	66	79	64	Iraq/War in Iraq
21	19	15	26	Immigration/illegal immigration
16	18	20	12	Health care
15	14	15	18	Gas prices/Energy
13	14	15	9	Economic issues
7	7	7	7	Education/schools
6	6	5	6	Frustration with government/Corruption
4	5	2	6	Terrorism/National security
3	3	3	3	Budget deficit/national debt
3	3	*	6	Morality issues
3	5	3	2	Environmental issues/pollution/global warming
3	4	3	3	Foreign affairs/not Iraq
2	2	1	4	Taxes
2	2	2	4	Social Security
1	2	2	1	Crime/violence
*	*	*	1	Seniors/retirement issues (not Medicare)
*	*	--	1	Katrina
*	*	*	1	Local issues
1	1	1	2	Nothing
5	5	3	5	Other
3	2	3	2	Don't know/Refused

2. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as: (a Democrat), (a Republican), an independent or what? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

<b>Total</b>	
<b>36</b>	Democrat
<b>27</b>	Republican
<b>29</b>	Independent
<b>1</b>	Libertarian (Vol)
<b>*</b>	Conservative (Vol)
<b>1</b>	Other (Vol)
<b>1</b>	No party (Vol)
<b>3</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	Refused

3. Do you lean more towards the: (Democratic) or (Republican) party? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q2)

Total who are neither Democrats nor Republicans

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	
<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>	Democratic
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	Republican
<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	Neither (Vol)
<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	Refused
<b>N=1136</b>	<b>N=1014</b>	

Q2/Q3 Leaned party Table

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	
<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>	Democrat/Lean Democrat
<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	Republican/Lean Republican
<b>9</b>	<b>32</b>	Non-lean Independent
<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	Libertarian
<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	Conservative
<b>1</b>	<b>--</b>	Non-lean Other
<b>1</b>	<b>--</b>	No party
<b>2</b>	<b>--</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	<b>--</b>	Refused

4. Have you always thought of yourself as an independent, or have you thought of yourself as a (Democrat) or a (Republican) in the past? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total independents

<b>Independent</b>	
<b>59</b>	Always an independent
<b>21</b>	Thought of self as a Democrat in past
<b>14</b>	Thought of self as a Republican in past
<b>4</b>	Thought of self as both Democrat and Republican in past (Vol)
<b>2</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
<b>N=1014</b>	

5. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican?

Total Republicans

<b>Republican</b>	
<b>58</b>	A strong Republican
<b>39</b>	A not very strong Republican
<b>2</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
<b>N=462</b>	

6. Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

Total Democrats

<b>Democrat</b>	
<b>53</b>	A strong Democrat
<b>44</b>	A not very strong Democrat
<b>2</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
<b>N=542</b>	

Q2/Q3/Q5/Q6 Political party Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
<b>36</b>	--	<b>100</b>	--	Democrat (net)
<b>19</b>	--	<b>53</b>	--	Strong
<b>16</b>	--	<b>44</b>	--	Not strong
<b>1</b>	--	<b>3</b>	--	Neither
<b>27</b>	--	--	<b>100</b>	Republican (net)
<b>16</b>	--	--	<b>58</b>	Strong
<b>11</b>	--	--	<b>39</b>	Not strong
<b>1</b>	--	--	<b>3</b>	Neither
<b>29</b>	<b>100</b>	--	--	Independent (net)
<b>12</b>	<b>40</b>	--	--	Lean Democrat
<b>8</b>	<b>28</b>	--	--	Lean Republican
<b>9</b>	<b>32</b>	--	--	No lean
<b>1</b>	--	--	--	Libertarian
<b>*</b>	--	--	--	Conservative
<b>1</b>	--	--	--	Other
<b>1</b>	--	--	--	No party
<b>3</b>	--	--	--	Don't know
<b>1</b>	--	--	--	Refused

7. In politics, do you ever think of yourself as an independent, or not?

Total non-independents

Total	Democrat	Republican	
<b>43</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	Yes
<b>53</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>56</b>	No
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	--	Refused
<b>N=1126</b>	<b>N=542</b>	<b>N=462</b>	

Q2/Q7 Independent Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
<b>71</b>	--	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	Not an independent (net)
<b>30</b>	--	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	Ever think of self as independent
<b>38</b>	--	<b>54</b>	<b>56</b>	Never think of self as independent
<b>29</b>	<b>100</b>	--	--	Independent

8. People give different reasons for describing themselves as independents. For each of the following, please tell me if it is a reason why you think of yourself as an independent, or not. First/Next is (INSERT). Is that a reason you're independent, or not? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS; ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)
9. (IF A REASON) Is that a major reason you call yourself an independent, or a minor reason?

Total independents

**Independent**

- a. I'm not very interested in politics**
- 31 Reason (net)
- 15 Major
- 15 Minor
- 1 Dk/Ref
- 68 Not a reason
- 1 Don't know
- \* Refused
- b. I am not comfortable with either the (Democratic) or (Republican) party**
- 69 Reason (net)
- 49 Major
- 20 Minor
- \* Dk/Ref
- 30 Not a reason
- 1 Don't know
- \* Refused
- c. I vote for candidates, not parties**
- 85 Reason (net)
- 70 Major
- 15 Minor
- \* Dk/Ref
- 14 Not a reason
- \* Don't know
- \* Refused
- d. I don't like putting a label on my political views**
- 61 Reason (net)
- 40 Major
- 20 Minor
- \* Dk/Ref
- 38 Not a reason
- 1 Don't know
- \* Refused
- e. I vote on the issues, not a party line**
- 88 Reason (net)
- 76 Major
- 11 Minor
- 1 Dk/Ref
- 11 Not a reason
- 1 Don't know
- \* Refused
- f. On some issues I agree with the (Democrats), on others I agree with the (Republicans)**
- 80 Reason (net)
- 52 Major
- 27 Minor
- 1 Dk/Ref
- 19 Not a reason
- 1 Don't know
- \* Refused

## Q8/Q9 Major Reason Table

### Independent

- 76** I vote on the issues, not a party line
- 70** I vote for candidates, not parties
- 52** On some issues I agree with the (Democrats), on others I agree with the (Republicans)
- 49** I am not comfortable with either the (Democratic) or (Republican) party
- 40** I don't like putting a label on my political views
- 15** I'm not very interested in politics

10. How satisfied are you with the way this country's political system is working? Would you say very satisfied, mostly satisfied, mostly dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
<b>34</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>56</b>	Satisfied (NET)
<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	Very satisfied
<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>50</b>	Mostly satisfied
<b>64</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>43</b>	Dissatisfied (NET)
<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	Mostly dissatisfied
<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14</b>	Very dissatisfied
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Refused

11. How much confidence do you have in the government in Washington to make the right decisions for the country's future - a lot, some, not much or none at all?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>68</b>	A lot/Some (NET)
<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	A lot
<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>49</b>	Some
<b>48</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>29</b>	Not much/None (NET)
<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	Not much
<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	None at all
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1</b>	Refused

13. Please tell me how important each of the following issues is to you PERSONALLY. (First/Next), would you say (INSERT ITEM) is extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not too important or not at all important to you PERSONALLY? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total respondent items

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b><i>a. The Economy</i></b>
37	34	40	36	Extremely important
48	49	47	48	Very important
13	15	11	14	Somewhat important
1	1	1	1	Not too important
*	*	*	*	Not at all important
*	*	--	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused
				<b><i>b. Healthcare</i></b>
41	41	48	31	Extremely important
44	42	44	45	Very important
11	12	6	16	Somewhat important
3	3	1	5	Not too important
1	1	--	2	Not at all important
*	*	*	--	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused
				<b><i>c. The situation in Iraq</i></b>
50	47	53	50	Extremely important
36	39	34	35	Very important
9	11	6	12	Somewhat important
2	2	3	1	Not too important
2	1	2	1	Not at all important
1	*	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused
				<b><i>d. The US campaign against terrorism</i></b>
37	34	32	49	Extremely important
39	36	41	40	Very important
17	24	17	9	Somewhat important
4	4	6	1	Not too important
2	2	4	*	Not at all important
*	*	--	*	Don't know
*	--	--	1	Refused



Items e through g asked of one-half of respondents

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b><i>e. The federal budget deficit</i></b>
27	25	35	20	Extremely important
36	36	34	40	Very important
25	28	20	28	Somewhat important
6	8	3	8	Not too important
3	2	2	4	Not at all important
3	1	5	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
				<b><i>f. Global warming</i></b>
24	22	39	6	Extremely important
29	36	28	21	Very important
25	23	22	33	Somewhat important
10	11	5	19	Not too important
10	7	3	20	Not at all important
2	1	2	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused
				<b><i>g. Illegal immigration</i></b>
28	28	20	38	Extremely important
33	33	30	32	Very important
25	23	30	24	Somewhat important
9	11	11	3	Not too important
5	4	8	3	Not at all important
*	*	1	--	Don't know
*	*	*	--	Refused
<b>N=1070</b>	<b>N=507</b>	<b>N=264</b>	<b>N=233</b>	

Items h through j asked of one-half of respondents

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b><i>h. Taxes</i></b>
23	23	23	26	Extremely important
41	39	44	39	Very important
27	29	25	31	Somewhat important
6	7	5	3	Not too important
2	2	2	1	Not at all important
1	*	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	--	Refused
				<b><i>i. Corruption in government</i></b>
40	39	42	38	Extremely important
38	39	37	41	Very important
16	15	16	16	Somewhat important
3	4	3	2	Not too important
2	2	1	2	Not at all important
1	*	*	3	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused
				<b><i>j. Social issues, such as abortion and gay marriage</i></b>
17	17	12	20	Extremely important
21	19	21	24	Very important
24	23	28	18	Somewhat important
19	19	22	17	Not too important
17	21	13	17	Not at all important
2	1	1	3	Don't know
1	*	2	1	Refused
<b>N=1070</b>	<b>N=507</b>	<b>N=278</b>	<b>N=229</b>	

Q13 Extremely Important Table

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>50</b>	The situation in Iraq
<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>31</b>	Health care
<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>	Corruption in government
<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	The economy
<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>49</b>	The US campaign against terrorism
<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>38</b>	Illegal immigration
<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	The federal budget deficit
<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>6</b>	Global warming
<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	Taxes
<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	Social issues such as abortion and gay marriage

14. Do you think there are important differences between the Democratic and Republican parties, or are both parties pretty much the same?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>62</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>71</b>	Important differences between the Democratic and Republican parties
<b>35</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</b>	Both parties pretty much the same
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	Refused

15. For each of the following, please tell me if you have a strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or strongly unfavorable impression. (First/Next), (INSERT). (ROTATE ITEMS – a, b, c, d OR b, a, d, c)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. The Democratic party in your state</b>
61	59	85	37	Favorable (NET)
16	8	34	5	Strongly favorable
44	51	51	32	Somewhat favorable
33	34	12	57	Unfavorable (NET)
20	22	9	33	Somewhat unfavorable
13	12	3	25	Strongly unfavorable
6	6	4	5	Don't know
1	1	*	*	Refused
				<b>b. The Republican party in your state</b>
51	50	32	80	Favorable (NET)
12	8	4	27	Strongly favorable
39	42	28	53	Somewhat favorable
42	43	61	15	Unfavorable (NET)
25	29	34	12	Somewhat unfavorable
17	14	27	4	Strongly unfavorable
7	6	6	4	Don't know
1	1	*	1	Refused
				<b>c. The Democratic party nationally</b>
57	55	85	28	Favorable (NET)
15	7	34	3	Strongly favorable
42	48	52	25	Somewhat favorable
39	41	13	68	Favorable (NET)
23	27	10	35	Somewhat unfavorable
16	14	3	33	Strongly unfavorable
3	3	1	3	Don't know
1	1	*	*	Refused
				<b>d. The Republican party nationally</b>
43	41	23	76	Favorable (NET)
9	4	5	20	Strongly favorable
34	37	18	57	Somewhat favorable
53	55	75	21	Unfavorable (NET)
28	32	33	18	Somewhat unfavorable
25	24	42	3	Strongly unfavorable
3	4	2	2	Don't know
1	1	*	*	Refused

16. Overall, which party, the (Democratic) or the (Republican), does a better job representing your views on (INSERT ITEM)? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS; ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total independents

<b>Independent</b>	
	<b><i>a. The Economy</i></b>
<b>37</b>	Democratic
<b>34</b>	Republican
<b>4</b>	Both (vol)
<b>16</b>	Neither (vol)
<b>9</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>b. Healthcare</i></b>
<b>48</b>	Democratic
<b>20</b>	Republican
<b>2</b>	Both (vol)
<b>19</b>	Neither (vol)
<b>10</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>c. The situation in Iraq</i></b>
<b>44</b>	Democratic
<b>28</b>	Republican
<b>3</b>	Both (vol)
<b>17</b>	Neither (vol)
<b>7</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>d. The US campaign against terrorism</i></b>
<b>30</b>	Democratic
<b>39</b>	Republican
<b>5</b>	Both (vol)
<b>16</b>	Neither (vol)
<b>10</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused

Items e through g asked of one-half of respondents

**Independent**

***e. The federal budget deficit***

**39** Democratic  
**23** Republican  
**3** Both (vol)  
**20** Neither (vol)  
**15** Don't know  
**\*** Refused

***f. Global warming***

**49** Democratic  
**21** Republican  
**2** Both (vol)  
**14** Neither (vol)  
**13** Don't know  
**\*** Refused

***g. Illegal immigration***

**33** Democratic  
**28** Republican  
**3** Both (vol)  
**24** Neither (vol)  
**12** Don't know  
**\*** Refused

**N=507**

Items h through j asked of one-half of respondents

**Independent**

***h. Taxes***

**40** Democratic  
**30** Republican  
**2** Both (vol)  
**17** Neither (vol)  
**11** Don't know  
**\*** Refused

***i. Corruption in government***

**32** Democratic  
**16** Republican  
**6** Both (vol)  
**31** Neither (vol)  
**14** Don't know  
**1** Refused

***j. Social issues, such as abortion and gay marriage***

**43** Democratic  
**26** Republican  
**3** Both (vol)  
**17** Neither (vol)  
**10** Don't know  
**1** Refused

**N=507**

17. Do you think the (Democratic party and its leaders) or the (Republican party and its leaders) are better able to manage the federal government effectively?  
(ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total independents

<b>Independent</b>	
<b>36</b>	Democratic party and its leaders
<b>22</b>	Republican party and its leaders
<b>5</b>	Both (vol)
<b>28</b>	Neither (vol)
<b>8</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	Refused

18. Please tell me if each of the following does or does not describe your own personal feelings about American politics today. The first is (INSERT), does this describe your own personal feelings about American politics today or not?  
(SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>34</b>	<b><i>a. Angry</i></b>
<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>63</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>2</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>*</b>	Don't know
				Refused
<b>62</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>71</b>	<b><i>b. Hopeful</i></b>
<b>37</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	Don't know
				Refused
<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b><i>c. Inspired</i></b>
<b>79</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>79</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	Don't know
				Refused
<b>80</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>76</b>	<b><i>d. Frustrated</i></b>
<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Don't know
				Refused
<b>51</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>	<b><i>e. Pessimistic</i></b>
<b>45</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>52</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	Don't know
				Refused
<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>	<b><i>f. Proud</i></b>
<b>70</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>62</b>	Does describes your feelings
<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	Does not describe your feelings
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Don't know
				Refused

Q18 Feelings about Politics Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
80	86	80	76	Frustrated
62	51	65	71	Hopeful
51	58	49	47	Pessimistic
50	56	56	34	Angry
29	23	27	36	Proud
20	16	23	20	Inspired

19. In general, do you think the two-party system does a pretty good job of addressing the issues that are most important to people like you, or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
45	38	45	54	Does a pretty good job addressing issues
53	60	53	44	Does not do a good job
2	2	2	2	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused

20. Do you think our political system would get (better), get (worse), or stay about the same if it were easier for people to run for president as independents? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
48	60	45	39	Better
15	10	17	21	Worse
31	25	33	35	Stay about the same
1	2	*	*	Depends (vol)
5	3	5	5	Don't know
*	*	*	--	Refused

21. Do you think our political system would get (better), get (worse), or stay about the same if there were no political parties at all? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
21	31	16	17	Better
54	45	58	62	Worse
19	19	21	16	Stay about the same
*	1	1	*	Depends (vol)
5	4	5	5	Don't know
*	*	--	*	Refused

22. For future presidential elections, would you support or oppose changing to a system in which the president is elected by direct popular vote, instead of by the electoral college?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
72	73	78	60	Support
23	23	16	35	Oppose
4	4	5	5	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

23. Thinking about the 2008 presidential election campaign so far, would you say that you're...very interested, somewhat interested, not too interested, or not interested at all?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
85	80	91	85	Interested (NET)
49	44	56	47	Very interested
36	36	34	38	Somewhat interested
15	20	9	14	Not interested (NET)
10	12	7	10	Not too interested
5	7	2	4	Not interested at all
*	*	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

24. Thinking ahead to November 2008, how seriously would you consider voting for (READ ITEM) candidate for president? Very seriously, somewhat seriously, not too seriously, or not seriously at all? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. A Republican</b>
49	47	19	92	Seriously (NET)
22	14	5	54	Very seriously
27	33	14	39	Somewhat seriously
45	46	75	3	Not Seriously (NET)
15	20	19	2	Not too seriously
30	25	56	2	Not seriously at all
2	1	3	*	Would not consider/No chance (vol)
4	6	3	4	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused
				<b>b. A Democratic</b>
66	66	96	32	Seriously (NET)
37	24	72	8	Very seriously
29	41	24	23	Somewhat seriously
29	28	2	63	Not Seriously (NET)
11	13	2	20	Not too seriously
18	14	*	43	Not seriously at all
1	1	--	2	Would not consider/No chance (vol)
4	5	2	3	Don't know
*	1	*	*	Refused
				<b>c. An independent</b>
58	77	50	49	Seriously (NET)
21	35	16	11	Very seriously
37	42	34	38	Somewhat seriously
36	17	45	45	Not Seriously (NET)
18	9	22	23	Not too seriously
18	8	23	22	Not seriously at all
1	*	*	1	Would not consider/No chance (vol)
5	5	4	5	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused



25. Putting aside for a moment the question of who the nominees might be...Would you prefer the next president to be (a Democrat), (a Republican), or something else? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
41	28	84	3	Democrat
26	13	2	75	Republican
13	29	5	6	Independent (vol)
3	5	2	3	party doesn't matter/depends on the candidate (vol)
1	1	*	*	Libertarian (vol)
1	1	1	--	Anyone who isn't a Democrat or Republican (vol)
*	1	*	--	Green party (vol)
*	--	--	*	Conservative (vol)
*	1	*	--	A female (vol)
1	1	1	1	Other (vol)
1	1	--	2	None (vol)
11	17	5	9	Don't know
1	2	*	1	Refused

26. Do you prefer a (Democrat/Republican) strongly, or somewhat?

Total who prefer a Democrat/Republican president next time

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
40	24	75	1	Democrat strongly
21	43	23	2	Democrat somewhat
17	21	1	36	Republican somewhat
22	10	*	60	Republican strongly
*	1	--	*	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
<b>N=1296</b>	<b>N=412</b>	<b>N=469</b>	<b>N=362</b>	

27. Which way are you leaning, (a Democrat) or (a Republican)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total who didn't know/refused to say which party the next president should be from

Total	Independent	
17	17	A Democrat
31	26	A Republican
29	37	Neither (vol)
16	14	Don't know
8	6	Refused
<b>N=322</b>	<b>N=215</b>	

Q25/Q26/Q27 Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
43	32	87	3	Prefer/Lean Democrat for next president (net)
27	10	64	1	Prefer Democrat strongly
14	18	20	2	Prefer Democrat somewhat
2	3	3	*	Lean Democrat
*	*	--	--	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
30	18	2	82	Prefer/Lean Republican for next president (net)
15	4	*	47	Prefer Republican strongly
11	9	1	28	Prefer Republican somewhat
4	5	1	7	Lean Republican
*	*	--	*	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
13	29	5	6	Prefer independent for next president
1	1	*	*	Prefer Libertarian
*	1	*	--	Prefer Green party
*	--	--	*	Prefer Conservative
*	1	*	--	Prefer a female
1	1	1	--	Prefer anyone who isn't a Democrat or Republican
3	5	2	3	party doesn't matter/depends on the candidate
1	1	1	1	Something else
1	1	--	2	None
6	11	2	3	Don't know/Refused

28. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the choice of presidential candidates on the Democratic side so far – are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

Total independents

Independent	
56	Satisfied (NET)
10	Very satisfied
46	Somewhat satisfied
39	Dissatisfied (NET)
25	Somewhat dissatisfied
14	Very dissatisfied
5	Don't know
*	Refused

29. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the choice of presidential candidates on the Republican side so far – are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

Total independents

Independent	
48	Satisfied (NET)
3	Very satisfied
45	Somewhat satisfied
45	Dissatisfied (NET)
28	Somewhat dissatisfied
17	Very dissatisfied
7	Don't know
*	Refused

30. Next, I'm going to read you a list of personal characteristics or qualities that some people find important when deciding how to vote for president. For each, please say how important it is to you. (First/Next) is (READ ITEM). Is that an absolutely essential quality in a presidential candidate, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS; ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. Someone who speaks his or her mind, regardless of the political consequences</b>
22	23	19	24	Absolutely essential
49	49	52	47	Very important
22	22	21	22	Somewhat important
5	5	5	4	Not too important
2	2	2	2	Not important at all
1	*	1	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused
				<b>b. Someone who has extensive experience in elected office</b>
10	8	10	10	Absolutely essential
37	34	44	35	Very important
36	37	33	36	Somewhat important
13	14	9	14	Not too important
5	7	3	3	Not important at all
*	*	*	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused
				<b>c. Someone who is inspiring</b>
18	15	17	20	Absolutely essential
47	41	54	46	Very important
28	35	21	28	Somewhat important
6	7	5	5	Not too important
1	2	2	*	Not important at all
1	*	1	1	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused
				<b>d. Someone who works well with both (Democrats) and (Republicans)</b>
31	31	32	32	Absolutely essential
50	51	54	47	Very important
13	12	11	15	Somewhat important
2	3	1	3	Not too important
2	2	1	1	Not important at all
1	*	1	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
				<b>e. Someone who has strong religious faith</b>
13	9	10	20	Absolutely essential
30	22	31	39	Very important
25	28	23	25	Somewhat important
15	19	15	9	Not too important
16	21	20	6	Not important at all
1	1	1	1	Don't know
*	*	*	--	Refused
				<b>f. Someone who is honest and trustworthy</b>
48	45	42	58	Absolutely essential
48	51	53	39	Very important
3	3	3	3	Somewhat important
*	1	*	*	Not too important
*	*	1	--	Not important at all
*	*	*	--	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused
				<b>g. Someone who is a strong and decisive leader</b>
35	31	31	43	Absolutely essential
53	56	55	50	Very important
9	12	10	5	Somewhat important
1	1	1	1	Not too important
1	*	2	*	Not important at all
1	*	1	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused

### Q30 Absolutely Essential Summary

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
48	45	42	58	Someone who is honest and trustworthy
35	31	31	43	Someone who is a strong and decisive leader
31	31	32	32	Someone who works well with both (Democrats) and (Republicans)
22	23	19	24	Someone who speaks his or her mind, regardless of the political consequences
18	15	17	20	Someone who is inspiring
13	9	10	20	Someone who has strong religious faith
10	8	10	10	Someone who has extensive experience in elected office

31. Some people think the government in Washington (is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and private businesses). Others disagree and think the government (should do more to solve our country's biggest problems). Which of these two views is closer to your own? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
48	49	35	64	Washington is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and private businesses
45	46	58	28	The government should do more to solve our country's biggest problems
6	3	7	7	Don't know
1	2	*	1	Refused

32. Would you rather see religion have greater influence in politics and public life than it does now, less influence, or about the same influence as it does now?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
29	21	26	42	Greater influence
34	42	40	17	Less influence
36	36	32	41	About the same influence
1	1	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

33. On another subject, would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
41	35	29	63	Excellent/Good (NET)
6	5	2	15	Excellent
34	31	27	48	Good
58	64	70	36	Not so good/Poor (NET)
39	41	44	31	Not so good
20	23	27	5	Poor
1	*	1	*	Don't know
*	--	--	--	Refused

34. Based on what you know or may have heard, do you think the globalization of the world economy is (mostly good for the United States), (mostly bad for the United States), or doesn't make much difference? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
30	27	29	39	Mostly good
35	38	33	31	Mostly bad
27	30	30	18	Doesn't make much difference
1	1	*	1	Haven't heard of globalization (vol)
7	4	8	10	Don't know
*	*	--	1	Refused

35. Which best describes your family's financial situation? Do you feel as if you (are getting ahead financially), have just enough money to maintain your standard of living, or (are falling behind financially)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
27	23	24	35	Getting ahead financially
53	53	56	50	Have just enough money to maintain your standard of living
19	22	19	14	Falling behind financially
1	1	*	1	Don't know
1	1	1	*	Refused

36. All in all, considering the costs to the United States versus the benefits to the United States, do you think the war with Iraq was worth fighting, or not?

37. Do you feel that way STRONGLY or SOMEWHAT?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
34	29	12	68	Yes, worth fighting (net)
23	18	6	52	Strongly
11	11	6	16	Somewhat
*	*	--	--	Don't know/Refused
62	67	85	28	No, not worth fighting (net)
11	12	11	10	Somewhat
51	55	73	18	Strongly
*	--	1	--	Don't know/Refused
3	4	2	4	Don't know
1	*	1	*	Refused

38. Do you think the U.S. goal of bringing stability to Iraq is still possible, or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
37	35	23	58	Yes, still possible
58	62	73	38	No, not possible
4	3	4	3	Don't know
*	*	--	*	Refused

39. Do you think (the United States must win the war in Iraq in order for the broader war on terrorism to be a success), or do you think (the war on terrorism can be a success without the United States winning the war in Iraq?) (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
35	29	23	57	The United States must win the war in Iraq in order for the broader war on terrorism to be a success
56	62	70	35	The war on terrorism can be a success without the United States winning the war in Iraq
7	7	5	6	Don't know
2	2	2	2	Refused

40. As it conducts the war on terrorism, do you think the United States government is or is not doing enough to protect the civil liberties of American citizens?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
48	46	34	71	Doing enough
48	51	62	25	Not doing enough
4	3	4	3	Don't know
1	*	1	*	Refused

41. Do you think illegal immigrants who are living and working in the United States now (should be offered a chance to keep their jobs and eventually apply for legal status), or do you think they (should be deported back to their native country)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
59	55	68	50	Should be offered a chance to keep their jobs and eventually apply for legal status
36	40	27	44	Should be deported back to their native country
4	4	4	5	Don't know
1	1	1	1	Refused

42. Do you favor or oppose stricter gun control laws in this country?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
57	56	71	39	Favor
40	43	26	57	Oppose
2	1	3	3	Don't know
*	1	*	1	Refused

43. Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
61	63	49	79	Favor
32	31	43	17	Oppose
6	5	7	3	Don't know
1	1	1	1	Refused

44. Compared to before September 11, 2001, do you think the country today is safer from terrorism or less safe from terrorism?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
50	47	39	70	Safer
38	41	49	20	Less Safe
9	10	11	8	No difference (vol)
2	2	2	2	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

45. When it comes to health care, do you think the presidential candidates should focus more on (lowering the cost of health care and insurance), or (expanding health insurance coverage to people who are currently uninsured)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
46	47	41	53	Lowering the cost of health care and insurance
40	41	48	30	Expanding health insurance coverage to people who are uninsured
8	7	9	7	Both (vol)
2	3	*	5	Neither (vol)
2	1	2	3	Don't know
1	*	*	2	Refused

46. In order to increase the number of Americans who have health insurance, would you be willing to pay more – either in higher health insurance premiums or higher taxes – or would you not be willing to pay more?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
39	41	49	26	Willing to pay more
58	56	48	72	Not willing to pay more
2	2	3	2	Don't know
1	*	1	*	Refused

47. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
56	62	64	41	Legal (NET)
19	19	23	12	Legal in all cases
37	43	40	30	Legal in most cases
40	35	32	55	Illegal (NET)
26	25	19	37	Illegal in most cases
14	10	13	18	Illegal in all cases
3	2	4	2	Don't know
1	1	1	2	Refused

48. Do you think same-sex couples should be (allowed legally to marry), should be (allowed legally to form civil unions, but not marry), or should not be allowed to obtain legal recognition of their relationships? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
29	33	35	17	Should be allowed to marry
28	32	25	28	Should be allowed legally to form civil unions but not marry
39	31	34	52	Should not be allowed to obtain legal recognition of their relationships
3	2	4	2	Don't know
2	1	1	1	Refused

49. Which of the following do you think would be the best way to finance presidential campaigns...(a system of public financing funded by the federal government), (a system of private financing funded by donations from individuals and political groups) or a combination of the two? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	Public financing
<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>35</b>	Private financing
<b>55</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>48</b>	Combination of the two
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	Other (vol)
<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	Refused

51. Who would you say has been the best U.S. president in the modern era...John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, the first George Bush, Bill Clinton, or George W. Bush? (ROTATE ITEMS 1-9, 9-1)

Total independents

**Independent**

<b>22</b>	John Kennedy
<b>2</b>	Lyndon Johnson
<b>2</b>	Richard Nixon
<b>3</b>	Gerald Ford
<b>7</b>	Jimmy Carter
<b>30</b>	Ronald Reagan
<b>3</b>	The first George Bush
<b>27</b>	Bill Clinton
<b>2</b>	George W. Bush
<b>3</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused

52. And which of these has been the WORST U.S. president in the modern era... [READ ONLY IF NECESSARY IN SAME ORDER AS Q60: John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, the first George Bush, Bill Clinton, or George W. Bush?]

Total independents

**Independent**

<b>1</b>	John Kennedy
<b>5</b>	Lyndon Johnson
<b>13</b>	Richard Nixon
<b>1</b>	Gerald Ford
<b>13</b>	Jimmy Carter
<b>2</b>	Ronald Reagan
<b>2</b>	The first George Bush
<b>10</b>	Bill Clinton
<b>48</b>	George W. Bush
<b>5</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused



53. How do you personally feel about the Bush administration's policies -- enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry? (ROTATE SCALE 1-4, 4-1)

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>65</b>	Enthusiastic/Satisfied (NET)
<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	Enthusiastic
<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>56</b>	Satisfied but not enthusiastic
<b>67</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>33</b>	Dissatisfied/Angry (NET)
<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>30</b>	Dissatisfied but not angry
<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3</b>	Angry
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>2</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Refused

54. How much attention do you normally pay to what's going on in national government and politics? A lot of attention, some attention, not much attention, or no attention at all?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>44</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>44</b>	A lot of attention
<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>	Some
<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	Not much
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	No attention at all
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>*</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	Refused

READ IF INDEPENDENTS: I'll now read a list of potential 2008 presidential candidates. Please tell me if you would definitely vote for them in the November 2008 general election if they were a nominee, if you would consider voting for them or if you would definitely NOT vote for them?

(ROTATE PLACEMENT OF Q55/56 WITH Q57/58)

55. [First if (INSERT) / Next, how about (INSERT), if he/she] were the Democratic nominee for president, would you definitely vote for (him/her) in November 2008, would you consider voting for (him/her) or would you definitely not vote for (him/her)? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total independents

**Independent**

	<b>a. Hillary Clinton</b>
<b>14</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>42</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>42</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>1</b>	Don't know
*	Refused
	<b>b. Barack Obama</b>
<b>13</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>53</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>29</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>4</b>	Don't know
*	Refused
	<b>c. John Edwards</b>
<b>7</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>51</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>37</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>4</b>	Don't know
*	Refused
	<b>d. Al Gore</b>
<b>10</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>39</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>49</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>1</b>	Don't know
*	Refused

56. Are there any other Democratic candidates that you'd definitely vote for in November 2008 if he or she were the party's nominee? (OPEN-ENDED, MULTIPLE ANSWERS ACCEPTED)

Total independents

**Independent**

<b>2</b>	Bill Richardson
<b>2</b>	Joe Lieberman
<b>1</b>	Joe Biden
<b>1</b>	Dennis Kucinich
<b>*</b>	Christopher Dodd
<b>1</b>	John Kerry
<b>1</b>	Bill Clinton
<b>2</b>	Other
<b>84</b>	No other candidates
<b>6</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused

READ: And on the other side...

57. If (INSERT) / Next, how about (INSERT), if he] were the Republican nominee for president, would you definitely vote for him in November 2008, would you consider voting for him or would you definitely not vote for him? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total independents

**Independent**

	<b><i>a. Rudy Giuliani</i></b>
<b>7</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>52</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>36</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>4</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>b. John McCain</i></b>
<b>5</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>51</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>40</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>4</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>c. Mitt Romney</i></b>
<b>3</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>41</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>47</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>9</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>d. Fred Thompson</i></b>
<b>4</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>38</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>44</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>14</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	Refused
	<b><i>e. Newt Gingrich</i></b>
<b>3</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>26</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>66</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>4</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	Refused

58. Are there any other Republican candidates that you'd definitely vote for in November 2008 if he or she were the party's nominee? (OPEN-ENDED, MULTIPLE ANSWERS ACCEPTED)

Total Independents

**Independent**

<b>1</b>	Colin Powell
<b>1</b>	Condoleezza Rice
<b>1</b>	Mike Huckabee
<b>1</b>	Tommy Thompson
<b>1</b>	Ron Paul
*	Chuck Hagel
*	Michael Bloomberg
*	Arlen Specter
*	Sam Brownback
*	Tom Tancredo
*	Duncan Hunter
<b>2</b>	Other
<b>86</b>	No other candidates
<b>6</b>	Don't know
*	Refused

READ THIS STATEMENT IF NOT INDEPENDENT: I'll now read a list of potential 2008 independent presidential candidates. For each, please tell me if you would definitely vote for him in the November 2008 general election if he were on the ballot in your state, if you would consider voting for him or if you would definitely NOT vote for him?

59. If (NAME) were an independent candidate for president in 2008, would you definitely vote for him, would you consider voting for him or would you definitely not vote for him? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<i><b>a. Michael Bloomberg</b></i>
<b>42</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>38</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>1</b>	*	*	<b>1</b>	Don't know
				Refused
				<i><b>b. Chuck Hagel</b></i>
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	Would definitely vote for
<b>34</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	Would consider voting for
<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	Would definitely not vote for
<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	Don't know
<b>1</b>	*	*	<b>1</b>	Refused

60. How much information, if any, about politics and government do you get from each of the following? (First/Next INSERT ITEM). Is it a lot, some, not too much or none at all? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. From television news</b>
53	48	59	56	A lot
32	37	29	32	Some
9	9	10	8	Not too much
5	5	3	4	None at all
*	*	--	*	Don't know
*	--	--	--	Refused
				<b>b. From the radio</b>
19	16	15	25	A lot
34	37	33	32	Some
22	23	25	20	Not too much
25	24	27	22	None at all
*	--	*	*	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused
				<b>c. From print newspapers</b>
31	31	36	27	A lot
37	39	36	37	Some
16	16	14	19	Not too much
15	14	13	17	None at all
*	--	1	--	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused
				<b>d. From the Internet</b>
20	21	20	17	A lot
23	24	22	25	Some
15	14	13	18	Not too much
42	41	45	39	None at all
*	--	--	*	Don't know
*	--	*	--	Refused

Q60 Media Usage "A Lot" Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
53	48	59	56	From television news
31	31	36	27	From print newspapers
20	21	20	17	From the Internet
19	16	15	25	From the radio

61. How much information, if any, about politics and government do you get from each of following online sources—a lot, some, not too much or none at all? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total who get any information about politics and government from the Internet

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. Blogs or online political journals</b>
6	8	6	3	A lot
21	20	21	16	Some
16	14	17	16	Not too much
57	58	55	63	None at all
1	*	1	2	Don't know
*	--	--	*	Refused
				<b>b. Video-sharing sites such as YouTube</b>
4	4	5	3	A lot
13	13	16	8	Some
12	14	9	9	Not too much
71	68	69	78	None at all
1	*	*	2	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
				<b>c. Social networking sites such as MySpace or Facebook</b>
2	2	3	3	A lot
5	6	7	4	Some
7	7	7	6	Not too much
42	45	38	46	None at all
*	*	1	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
				<b>d. Newspaper or television network websites</b>
31	30	39	25	A lot
39	42	35	42	Some
13	15	12	12	Not too much
16	13	14	19	None at all
*	*	--	2	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
<b>N=1265</b>	<b>N=611</b>	<b>N=307</b>	<b>N=277</b>	

Q60/61 Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. Blogs or online political journals</b>
3	5	3	2	A lot
12	12	12	9	Some
9	8	9	10	Not too much
33	34	30	38	None at all
*	*	1	1	Don't know
*	--	--	*	Refused
42	41	45	40	Do not get political information from the Internet
				<b>b. Video-sharing sites such as YouTube</b>
2	3	3	2	A lot
7	8	9	5	Some
7	8	5	6	Not too much
41	40	38	47	None at all
*	*	*	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
42	41	45	40	Do not get political information from the Internet
				<b>c. Social networking sites such as MySpace or Facebook</b>
2	2	3	3	A lot
5	6	7	4	Some
7	7	7	6	Not too much
42	45	38	46	None at all
*	*	1	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
42	41	45	40	Do not get political information from the Internet
				<b>d. Newspaper or television network websites</b>
18	18	21	15	A lot
23	25	19	25	Some
8	9	7	8	Not too much
9	8	8	11	None at all
*	*	--	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused
42	41	45	40	Do not get political information from the Internet

62. Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
82	81	83	89	Yes
17	19	17	10	No
1	*	*	1	Don't know
--	--	--	--	Refused

63. In presidential elections, would you say you...? (ROTATE SCALE 1-5, 5-1)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
14	4	37	--	Always vote Democratic
23	22	42	1	Mostly vote Democratic
27	44	16	20	Vote for Republicans and Democrats about equally
19	16	*	49	Mostly vote Republican
8	1	*	28	Always vote Republican
5	9	4	1	Don't vote/Haven't voted (vol)
2	3	1	1	Don't know
1	1	*	*	Refused

64. And in STATE elections, would you say you...? (ROTATE SCALE 1-5, 5-1, SAME ORDER AS IN Q63)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
11	3	28	--	Always vote Democratic
21	17	41	1	Mostly vote Democratic
35	55	25	28	Vote for Republicans and Democrats about equally
18	12	*	48	Mostly vote Republican
6	1	*	21	Always vote Republican
6	9	4	2	Don't vote/Haven't voted (vol)
2	2	1	1	Don't know
1	1	*	--	Refused

65. As you may know, around half the public does not vote in presidential elections. How about you--did you vote in the last presidential election in 2004, when George W. Bush ran against John Kerry, or did you not have a chance to vote that time?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
72	68	71	85	Voted
24	29	27	12	Did not vote
3	3	2	3	Too young to vote (vol)
*	*	*	*	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

66. Which candidate did you vote for?

Total who voted for president in 2004

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
50	46	11	95	George W. Bush
43	42	83	3	John Kerry
1	2	--	--	Ralph Nader (vol)
1	2	2	*	Other candidate (vol)
*	*	*	--	Did not vote (vol)
1	2	2	*	Don't know
4	6	2	2	Refused
<b>N=1771</b>	<b>N=821</b>	<b>N=449</b>	<b>N=421</b>	

Q65/Q66 Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
72	68	71	85	Voted in 2004 presidential election (net)
36	32	8	81	George W. Bush
31	29	59	2	John Kerry
1	2	--	--	Ralph Nader
1	1	1	*	Other candidate
24	29	27	12	Did not vote
3	3	2	3	Too young to vote
*	*	*	*	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused



67. What about in the 2006 Congressional elections for the House and Senate that were held just this past November, did things come up which kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
58	52	60	67	Voted
38	45	38	29	Did not vote
2	2	1	2	Too young to vote (vol)
1	1	1	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

68. Did you vote for the (Democratic) candidate or the (Republican) candidate in your Congressional district? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Total who voted in the 2006 congressional elections

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
52	55	90	10	Democratic candidate
40	32	5	85	Republican candidate
2	3	2	1	Other candidate (vol)
*	*	--	*	Did not vote (vol)
5	8	3	3	Don't know
1	2	1	1	Refused
<b>N=1447</b>	<b>N=645</b>	<b>N=388</b>	<b>N=345</b>	

Q67/Q68 Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
58	52	60	67	Voted in 2006 Congressional election (net)
30	28	54	7	Democratic candidate
23	17	3	57	Republican candidate
1	1	1	*	Other candidate
38	45	38	29	Did not vote
2	2	1	2	Too young to vote
1	1	1	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

70. Have you ever voted for an independent or third party candidate in a presidential or statewide election?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
36	49	28	35	Yes
62	49	71	63	No
2	2	2	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

71. Have you or are you seriously considering volunteering any of your time or contributing money to a presidential candidate in 2008, or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
21	18	27	20	Yes
76	80	70	77	No
3	2	3	2	Don't know
*	*	--	*	Refused

72. Would you say your views on most political matters are...?  
(ROTATE SCALE 1-5, 5-1)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
28	25	42	10	Liberal (NET)
8	6	14	3	Very liberal
19	19	29	8	Somewhat liberal
30	38	33	22	Moderate
39	35	23	66	Conservative (NET)
25	27	19	32	Somewhat conservative
14	8	4	34	Very conservative
1	1	1	1	Don't think in those terms (vol)
2	1	1	1	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused

(ROTATE PLACEMENT OF QUESTIONS Q73 AND Q74)

73. How about on most social issues, would you say your views are...? (ROTATE SCALE 1-5, 5-1, SAME ORDER AS IN Q72)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
31	35	42	11	Liberal (NET)
12	11	18	4	Very liberal
19	24	24	7	Somewhat liberal
27	32	30	18	Moderate
39	31	25	68	Conservative (NET)
25	21	20	37	Somewhat conservative
14	10	6	30	Very conservative
1	*	1	1	Don't think in those terms (vol)
2	1	2	2	Don't know
*	*	1	--	Refused

74. How about on most fiscal issues – such as taxes and government spending – would you say your views are...? (ROTATE SCALE 1-5, 5-1, SAME ORDER AS IN Q72)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
17	15	27	5	Liberal (NET)
6	5	9	2	Very liberal
11	10	17	4	Somewhat liberal
30	35	34	20	Moderate
50	48	36	73	Conservative (NET)
31	35	25	38	Somewhat conservative
19	14	11	34	Very conservative
1	*	1	1	Don't think in those terms (vol)
2	1	2	1	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

75. In politics, do you think of yourself as (INSERT) or not? (SCRAMBLE ITEMS)

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
				<b>a. A libertarian</b>
18	22	19	8	Yes
75	72	73	86	No
7	6	8	6	Don't know
*	*	--	--	Refused
				<b>b. A progressive</b>
34	35	40	30	Yes
56	58	51	60	No
9	7	9	10	Don't know
*	*	--	*	Refused

## Demographics

76. What is your age?

77. IF REFUSED: Could you please tell me if you are between the ages of 18-29, 30-49, 50-64 or 65+?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	18-29
<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	30-49
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	50-64
<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	65+

78. Are you...?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>55</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>68</b>	Married and living with your spouse
<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	Living with a partner but not married
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	Separated
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	Divorced
<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	Widowed
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	Or never married
<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>	Refused

79. Do you have any children under age 18 living at home, or not?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>41</b>	Yes
<b>63</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>59</b>	No
<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	Don't know
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	Refused

80. What is the last grade of school you completed?

81. Was that an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree, or what?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	8th grade or less
<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	Some high school
<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	Graduated high school
<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	Some college
<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	Graduated college (net)
<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	Associate's degree
<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	Bachelor's degree
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*</b>	Other
<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	DK/Refused
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	Post Graduate

82. What, if anything, is your religion?  
 83. What would that be?  
 84. Is that a Christian religion or not?  
 85. Is that a Protestant denomination, or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
41	36	40	50	Protestant
22	22	26	15	Catholic
14	14	10	19	Christian (Non-Protestant)
7	7	9	4	Other Non-Christian
14	19	12	9	None
1	2	1	1	Don't know
2	2	1	2	Refused

86. Would you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

Total Christians

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
42	36	41	49	Yes
55	61	55	49	No
3	3	3	2	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused
<b>N=1675</b>	<b>N=756</b>	<b>N=424</b>	<b>N=410</b>	

Total respondents

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
33	26	33	42	Born-again Christian
44	44	45	42	Christian, not born-again
2	2	3	2	Christian, don't know if born-again
*	*	*	*	Christian, refused born-again
21	27	19	14	None, other

87. Aside from weddings and funerals how often do you attend religious services?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
13	9	11	17	More than once a week
27	23	26	34	Once a week
14	13	19	13	Once or twice a month
18	21	17	15	A few times a year
18	22	17	13	Seldom
10	12	9	7	Never
*	--	*	--	Don't know
1	*	*	2	Refused

88. At present, are you yourself employed part-time or full-time, or are you retired or something else?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
13	13	14	11	Employed part time
48	49	49	47	Employed full time
20	20	20	23	Retired
6	5	3	9	Homemaker (vol)
4	5	4	4	Unemployed (vol)
2	2	2	2	Student (vol)
4	4	5	2	Disability (vol)
2	2	2	1	Self-employed (vol)
1	*	1	*	Other (vol)
1	1	1	1	Refused

89. Are you, or is any other adult in your household a member of a labor union?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
14	14	16	12	Yes
84	85	82	87	No
1	1	2	*	Don't know
1	*	1	1	Refused

90. Is that you, or someone in your household?

Total with someone in the household in labor union

Total	Independent	
48	41	Respondent
44	51	Someone else in the household
8	8	Both respondent and someone else
*	1	Refused
<b>N=307</b>	<b>N=147</b>	

89/90 Combination table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
14	14	16	12	Household member in Labor union (net)
7	6	8	7	Respondent
6	7	7	5	Someone else in the household
1	1	1	*	Both respondent and someone else
84	85	82	87	No one in Labor union
1	1	2	*	Don't know
1	*	1	1	Refused

91. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan? This would include any private insurance plan through your employer or that you purchase yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
84	84	83	89	Yes
15	15	16	9	No
*	*	--	*	Don't know
1	*	1	1	Refused

92. Are you, or is anyone in your household, serving in the military or a military veteran, or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
23	25	19	26	Yes
77	75	80	73	No
*	--	*	--	Don't know
*	*	*	1	Refused

93. Is that you, or someone in your household?

Total with someone in the household in the military

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
46	53	44	39	Respondent
49	42	50	55	Someone else in the household
6	6	6	6	Both respondent and someone else
--	--	--	--	Refused
<b>N=571</b>	<b>N=291</b>	<b>N=118</b>	<b>N=132</b>	

92/93 Combination Table

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
23	25	19	26	Household member in military (net)
10	13	8	10	Respondent
11	10	10	14	Someone else in the household
1	1	1	2	Both respondent and someone else
77	75	80	73	No one in military
*	--	*	--	Don't know
*	*	*	1	Refused

94. Are you a U.S. citizen or not?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
93	94	91	97	Yes
7	6	8	2	No
--	--	--	--	Don't know
*	*	*	1	Refused

95. Are you of Hispanic origin or background?

96. Are you White Hispanic or Black Hispanic?

97. Are you white, black, or some other race?

Total	Independent	Democrat	Republican	
87	89	85	93	Non-Hispanic Net
68	70	54	87	White
11	7	24	1	Black
1	2	1	1	Asian
2	3	2	*	Native American
2	3	1	2	Mixed race
1	1	1	*	Something else
2	2	2	2	Non-Hispanic unspecified
13	11	15	7	Hispanic Net
9	7	12	5	White
2	2	1	--	Black
2	2	2	1	Hispanic (no race given)

98. Which of the following CATEGORIES best describes your total annual household income before taxes, from all sources? (READ LIST)
99. Is that 100 to under 150 thousand, 150 to under 200 thousand or 200 thousand or more? PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

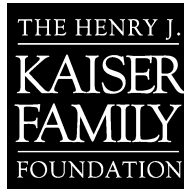
<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	Under 20 thousand dollars
<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	20 to under 35 thousand
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	35 to under 50 thousand
<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	50 to under 75 thousand
<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	75 to under 100 thousand
<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	100 thousand or more (net)
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	100 to under 150 thousand
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	150 to under 200 thousand
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	200 thousand or more
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	Don't know
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	Refused

INTERVIEWER: In what language was this interview conducted?

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	All Spanish
<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>--</b>	Mostly Spanish
<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	Part Spanish/Part English
<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>--</b>	Mostly English
<b>94</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>99</b>	All English

Gender recorded by interviewer

<b>Total</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>	
<b>48</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	Male
<b>52</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	Female



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