

# Los Angeles Times / Bloomberg

---

## DEMOCRATS BATTLING TO TAKE CONTROL OF U.S. SENATE -- FIVE BATTLEGROUND STATES DOWN TO THE WIRE

The midterm elections are heating up with the Democrats having momentum on their side. The nonpartisan Cook Political Report reports that since January, the GOP congressional seats in play have gone from 18 to more than 40 (including districts where Republican candidates usually had little or no opposition). In order for the Democrats to gain control of one or both chambers of Congress, they would need to pick up 15 seats in the House and six seats in the Senate. As Ron Brownstein reports in today's Los Angeles Times, "The Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg poll shows that among the Senate contests that are in play, Democrats are narrowly leading in Ohio, New Jersey and Virginia (Republicans are leading in Tennessee and Missouri), although well within the poll's margin of error. Polls in other hotly contested Senate races show Democratic challengers holding consistent, though in some cases narrow leads against Republican incumbents in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Montana. If Democrats captured those three races and the candidate now leading in the five states the Times/Bloomberg poll surveyed, the Senate would be split at 50-50 between the parties and Vice President Dick Cheney would be the tie-breaking vote. Conversely, if the Democrats captured those three seats, won Ohio and held New Jersey, they would take the Senate if they won two of three in Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia." The voters are pretty much solidified in their vote with very few saying they could change their mind and vote for someone else.

At least three out of five voters in each of the five states believe the nation is seriously off on the wrong track (including a huge 71% of voters in New Jersey) and among this group, a majority of voters in each state are supporting the Democratic candidate. In six issues that were measured in the poll to find out whether the Democrats or the Republicans were better equipped to handle the issue (Iraq war, terrorism, taxes, economy, immigration and gas prices), the Democrats either lead the Republicans on the issue or both parties split the issue, except for the war on terrorism which still goes in the Republican column. In addition, George W. Bush's job rating in all five states was negative and voters want the country to move in a new direction, rather than proceed with the policies of the current administration. Also, except for Tennessee voters, more voters in the remaining four states said their U.S. senate vote was a vote against Bush's policies, than said it was a vote in support for his presidency.

In terms of how voters view the Iraq war, most voters in all five states surveyed don't believe the war in Iraq was worth it. Yet, except for New Jersey, pluralities of voters in the other four states want to stay in Iraq for as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country (compared to nearly half of voters nationwide found in a September Times/Bloomberg poll). For voters in New Jersey -- nearly three out of 10 voters want the military to get out immediately, which compares to just 13% of voters nationwide.

The poll also asked a question about North Korea conducting a nuclear weapons test and which administration is more to blame for that development: the Bush administration or the Clinton administration. There was no clear cut answer -- voters in Ohio, New Jersey and Virginia put the onus on the Bush administration, while Missouri blamed the Clinton administration and Tennessee divided on which administration was to blame. However, about one in four voters from each state thought both or neither president was culpable.

## Ohio

Ohio has been a pivotal state in the last two presidential elections – allowing Bush to become president. In the senate race between Republican incumbent Senator Mike DeWine and his Democratic challenger, Representative Sherrod Brown, it appears that the Republican is having trouble closing the deal. With just two weeks to go before the election, Brown is leading the Ohio incumbent by 47% to 39% among likely voters (although on the cusp of the poll's 4 point margin of error). Three percent said they would vote for someone else and 11% are still undecided. However, the candidates' supporters are quite solidified in their support with more than four of five of Brown and DeWine voters saying they are certain that they will vote for their candidate.

Some demographics of the Senate race:

- More than three-quarters of Democrats are supporting Brown, while 89% of Republicans are backing DeWine. Nearly half of independents are voting for the Democrat giving Brown a 12 point advantage among this group. Also a majority of moderates are voting for Brown.
- The older voters (45+) give Brown a 15 point advantage, while the younger voters (18-44) are virtually split between the two candidates.
- Voters with a college degree or more are splitting their vote between the two candidates, while those with less education are supporting the Democrat by 48% to 36%.
- Men are narrowly supporting the Republican by 48% to 43% for Brown, while the women are voting for the Democrat by 52% to 31% for DeWine..
- Nearly three-fifths each of those living in the city and suburbs support Brown, compared to 63% of voters in rural areas who solidly support DeWine.
- White voters are narrowly voting for Brown (46% to 41% for DeWine).

*Trade:* One main issue that Brown has been campaigning on is free trade. Brown believes that trade agreements, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (also known as NAFTA) are unfair to employees and these agreements help U.S. companies to outsource their jobs overseas. DeWine, on the other hand has supported NAFTA and other trade agreements because he feels that lowering barriers to trade with other nations expands markets for American products and creates jobs for American workers. When these two different visions of how to handle trade was put forth to the voters, a bare majority said their candidate's position on trade would make no difference in their vote. But almost three in 10 voters said it would make them more likely to vote for Brown and about a fifth said it would make them more likely to vote for DeWine. As the table below shows it appears that Brown was correct in making trade a big issue in his campaign since jobs in Ohio are vanishing. This issue gives Brown an eight point advantage over his opponent.

### Position on Trade:

*As you may know, Mike DeWine has supported the North American Free Trade Agreement, known as NAFTA, and other trade agreements because he believes that lowering barriers to trade with other nations expands markets for American products and creates jobs for American workers. Sherrod Brown voted against NAFTA and other trade agreements because he believes that the agreements are unfair and they help U.S. companies outsource jobs overseas. Does knowing the candidates position on trade, make you more likely to vote for DeWine or more likely to vote for Brown, or would it not make a difference in your vote one way or the other?*

-- table reads vertically

	DeWine Voters	Brown Voters
No difference	51%	43%
More likely DeWine	40	6
More likely Brown	6	48
Undecided	3	3

Bush's effect on the Senate race: *By almost two to one, (33% to 19%) voters are saying their senate choice is a protest vote against Bush. But nearly half (45%) said they don't think of their vote as either a vote for or against the president. Nearly three-fifths of Brown supporters are voting for him as a vote against Bush, while more than a third of DeWine voters are supporting their candidate as a vote for Bush and his policies (56% of DeWine's voters said their vote is neither for or against Bush, compared to 36% of Brown's supporters).*

To add to this theory that Bush is a negative factor in this Ohio Senate race is the fact that 60% of voters disapprove (including 49% who strongly disapprove) of the way Bush is handling his job as president, while 39% approve. Among those who disapprove of the president's job performance, 70% would support Brown, while among those who approve of the president, 80% would vote for DeWine.

#### Senate Vote by Bush Job Approval:

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

-- table reads vertically

	Approve	Disapprove
DeWine	80	14
Brown	12	70
Someone else	2	3
Don't know	6	13

Along with Bush's negative job rating, almost two-thirds of voters said the country is not better off following Bush's policies and should move in a new direction. About a third said the country is better off because of Bush's policies and should stay the course. Half also said that the country's economy is worse off since the president took over six years ago, while less than three in 10 believe the nation's economy is better off. Nearly three-quarters of voters who said the economy is worse off would support Brown, while 88% of voters who thought the economy was better off would back DeWine.

But voters perception of Bush handling the war on terrorism and national security nationally has always been a strong issue for the president. In a September Times/Bloomberg national poll, 56% of voters said they felt more secure because of Bush's policies, 19% less secure. In Ohio, (as well as the other four states surveyed) that is no exception, albeit not as strong as nationally) – nearly half (46%) of the state's voters said the president's policies on terrorism and national security over the past six years have made them feel more secure, 36% said less secure and 17% said Bush's policies on national security made no difference in how they felt about their security. Not surprisingly, two-thirds of voters who said they felt more secure are supporting the Republican incumbent, while four out of five who said less secure are supporting the Democratic challenger. Among the less than fifth of voters who said his policies make no difference, 48% are supporting Brown and 35% are backing DeWine.

*Party Influence:* Nearly three-fifths of voters (56%) would like to see the Democrats take control of Congress, while a third want the Republicans to keep their control. Ohio voters are split as to which party would do a better job handling national security and the war on terrorism, but they think the Democrats would do a better job of handling the situation in Iraq, taxes, immigration issues, gas prices and the economy.

#### *Which party do you think can do a better job of handling:*

-- table reads horizontally

	Democrats	Republicans	Both/Neither
Economy	56	30	8
Taxes	51%	35	8
Gas prices	50	17	23
Situation in Iraq	44%	32	16
Immigration issues	40	28	18
National security and the war on terrorism	39%	41	14

*Congress:* Most voters (71%) disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job, while just 21% approve. Nearly seven in 10 voters think there isn't much difference between the two parties in Congress when it come to ethics and honesty. But those voters who believe one party is more ethical and honest than the other – Democrats beat the Republicans by two to one. This advantage for the Democrats may be because of the Mark Foley scandal. As was reported, Republican Congressman Mark Foley resigned after it was reported that he sent emails with sexual overtones to a 16-year old congressional page. Nearly three in 10 voters said it would make them less likely to vote for a Republican this year because of the way the Republican congressional leadership handled the Foley incident. However 72% said it would not make a difference in their vote. Not surprisingly, 91% of DeWine voters said it wouldn't make a difference in their support of him, while 37% of Brown voters said it would make them less likely to support a Republican candidate (the 37% was made up of 75% Democrats and 24% independents).

*Iraq War:* More than six out of 10 voters said the situation in Iraq was not worth going to war, while a third said it was. Almost four out of five who said the war was worth it are solidly backing the incumbent, while nearly seven in 10 who believed that the war was not worth it are solidly behind Brown. A slim majority of voters also think the war is separate from the war against terrorism, while 45% said it is part of the war against terrorism. A plurality of voters think the military should stay in Iraq for longer than two years, including 38% who said we should stay there for as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country. Less than a fifth (17%) think we should get out of Iraq immediately.

## **Missouri**

This was supposed to be an easy win for Republican incumbent Jim Talent, but if the election were held today, it would be a tossup with Talent barely leading his opponent. Nearly half, 48%, would support Talent, while 45% would support the Democratic challenger, State Auditor Claire McCaskill. Three percent would vote for someone else and 4% were undecided. As in the other four states, both candidates have very strong support from their constituents. More than nine in ten of each candidates' backers are certain they will vote for their own candidate.

More than six out of ten voters think the country is seriously going off on the wrong track, while 34% said the country is going in the right direction. Among those who said wrong track, 64% would support McCaskill, while 82% of those who said right track would back Talent.

Some demographics of the U.S. senate race:

- More than eight out of ten Democratic voters would support the Democratic candidate, while nine in 10 Republicans support their own. Independents are splitting their vote between the two candidates (45% support Talent, 42% support McCaskill). On the other hand, three-fifths of moderates support the Democrat.
- The younger respondents (18-44) are dividing their vote, while the 45 and older group are narrowly supporting the Republican.
- Half of white voters said they would support Talent, while more than three-fifths of minorities would back McCaskill.
- Both groups of highly and not highly educated voters are split as to whom they would support, but Talent gets a small four point advantage among the less educated.
- Men are more likely to support Talent (51%) than women (44%), whereas women are not giving the advantage to the Democratic woman, but are splitting their vote.
- Voters living in the city support McCaskill, while rural voters support Talent. Suburban voters are splitting their vote.

*Stem cell amendment:* There is a stem cell initiative on the ballot called Constitutional Amendment 2. The amendment will allow and set limitations on stem cell research. McCaskill is for stem cell research while Talent opposes it. Voters are handily supporting the initiative to allow stem cell research (58%) and among this group, 70% are supporting the Democratic challenger. Among the 35% who would vote no on the amendment, 84% are supporting Talent.

*Bush's effect on the Senate race:* As in New Jersey, Virginia and Ohio, this election may be a referendum on Bush and his policies. A third of Missouri voters said their vote in the senate race is a vote against Bush's policies, while less than a fifth said it was a vote for the president. Nearly half (45%) said they don't think of their vote as being about Bush and his policies. But among McCaskill voters it is clearly a vote against the president – 61% said they are voting against Bush's policies, while 37% of Talent's voters said they were voting for the incumbent because they supported Bush's policies.

In Missouri, voters are slightly more disapproving of the president (52%) than approving (47%) (more approving than voters in Ohio and New Jersey). Nearly three quarters who disapprove of the president are voting for McCaskill, while four out of five voters who approve of the president's job performance is backing the Republican incumbent. But Missouri voters are very much in agreement with the other four states that the country would be better off if it didn't follow along with Bush's policies and proceed in a new direction.

**Senate Vote by Bush Job Approval:**

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

-- table reads vertically

	Approve	Disapprove
Talent	80	19
McCaskill	12	75
Someone else	4	1
Don't know	4	5

A small plurality of voters believe the country is worse off because of Bush's economic policies than when he became president six years ago, a third believe the country is better off and roughly a quarter said the country is about the same. Not surprisingly, those who said things are better off economically solidly support Talent, while those who said the economy is worse off are staunchly behind McCaskill.

Once again, the Bush administration comes up with positive marks in voters believing the president's policies on terrorism and national security have made the country more secure over the past six years. More than half (53%) said that, compared to 27% who said the policies are making the country less secure and 18% who said the president's policies made no difference.

*Party influence:* Roughly half of voters want the Democrats to take control, while 39% want the Republicans to keep control of Congress. Missouri voters give the Republicans a thumbs up as the party that can do a better job of handling national security and terrorism, but voters are divided over which party can do best in the situation in Iraq, handling taxes and immigration issues. But voters give better marks to the Democrats in handling gas prices and to a lesser extent, the economy..

*Which party do you think can do a better job of handling:*

--table reads horizontally

	Democrats	Republicans	Both/Neither
Economy	44%	41	11
Gas prices	42%	21	27
Taxes	42%	42	12
Situation in Iraq	40%	38	14
Immigration issues	36%	34	20
National security and the war on terrorism	31%	46	15

*Congress:* Nearly six out of ten voters disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job, while a third approve. As in the other four states, 69% of Missouri voters think neither party in Congress is more ethical or honest than the other.

Nearly three-quarters of Missouri voters said that the way the Republican leadership handled Republican Congressman Mark Foley's incident (sending emails with sexual overtones to a 16 year old congressional page)

would not make a difference in their vote. But among those who said it would make a difference, 21% said it would make them less likely to vote for a Republican candidate. However, among Talent voters, 91% said the Foley matter would make no difference in their vote, while 41% of McCaskill voters said it would make them less likely to vote for a Republican candidate (of the 41% , 68% are Democrats, 24% independents and 4% Republicans). Among voters who said it would make no difference in their vote, 58% would back Talent and 34% would support McCaskill.

*Iraq War:* Slightly more than half (53%) of voters said the situation in Iraq was not worth going to war over, while 42% said it was. Among those who said the war was not worth it – 70% are supporting the Democrat, while those who support the war are supporting Talent by 76%. Interestingly, nearly half of Missouri voters said we should stay in Iraq as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country. Just 13% said we should get our troops out immediately. Missouri voters think differently than voters from New Jersey and Virginia, but similarly to Tennessee and Ohio on removing troops from Iraq. But voters in Tennessee, like Missouri, believe the war with Iraq is part of the war on terrorism, while 46% of voters said the war in Iraq is separate from the war against terrorism.

## Tennessee

A majority of Tennessee likely voters think the country is off on the wrong track, and they are tending toward a desire for Democrats to end up in control of Congress, but that dissatisfaction has not coalesced into a anti-Republican referendum in the race for U.S. Senate, the survey found.

With two weeks until the election, Bob Corker, former Chattanooga mayor and Republican contender for the open senate seat in Tennessee, leads by five points - 49% to 44% over Rep. Harold Ford Jr. (D-Tenn) among likely voters, if the election were held today. That is inside the poll's four percentage point margin of error for likely voters.

The pair are locked in a contentious race for the senate seat left open by Republican senator Bill Frist, who served for two terms. The closeness of this increasingly heated senate race has come as a surprise to some analysts, many of whom predicted an easy win for Corker in a state that has been tending Republican in its voting habits, having backed Clinton in 1996 but then switching parties and backing Bush in 2000 and 2004.

While this survey finds Corker drawing slightly ahead, the candidates continue to be closely matched – other surveys in the last few weeks have found the candidates tied, or within a couple of points of one another, but the survey comes on the heels of negative publicity for Ford centering around his attempt to crash a Corker press conference.

The candidates have been trading blows over a variety of ethical and leadership issues (including ads run by the Republican party accusing the bachelor Ford of being a “playboy.”) Ford comes from a politically prominent family that has been dogged by accusations of fraud and corruption. The survey found that Corker indeed does have a slight advantage over Ford on having more honesty and integrity, but it hasn't derailed the Democrat's campaign. Just over three in 10 said they see no difference between the two on this issue, just over a third named Corker as the most honest, and 29% picked Ford. Those who see no difference between the two split their votes 46% for Corker, 47% for Ford.

Both candidates have the backing of the vast majority of their own party's voters, so differences are a matter of degree, but Corker has Tennessee Republicans nearly in lock-step behind him – 95% are backing him, and only 3% picked Ford or someone else. Ford has the backing of 88% of his party's voters, with 8% backing Corker or someone else. Among the one in four registered voters who identify as independents, Ford leads by 10 points, and he has a 32 point lead among self-described moderates. Voters in the cities and suburbs are also choosing Ford over Corker by 23 and 14 percentage points, respectively. However, Corker can count on men, white voters, and those living in small towns and rural areas.

Both candidates are enjoying strong support at this time – 91% of Corker’s and 94% of Ford’s voters said they are certain they will vote for their candidates. Among those who are certain of their vote, Corker maintains a within-margin lead - 51% to 48%.

Some Demographics of the U.S. Senate vote in Tennessee:

- table reads horizontally

	Corker	Ford	S/Else	D/Know
All Likely	49	44	3	4
Party Affiliation				
Democrat	2	88	6	4
Independent	39	49	4	8
Republican	95	2	1	2
Political Ideology				
Liberal	9	83	5	3
Moderate	29	61	2	8
Conservative	74	21	0	3
Race/Ethnicity				
White	54	38	4	4
Non-White	23	71	0	6
Gender				
Male	56	40	2	2
Female	42	47	4	7
Location of Home				
City	36	59	3	2
Suburb	39	53	0	8
Small town	55	39	3	3
Rural	62	27	6	5

*The George W. Bush Effect:* Tennessee voters backed Bush in the last two presidential elections and likely voters in this survey are more supportive of the president than the country as a whole, but not overwhelmingly so since likely voters are still split -- 49% approve to 50% disapprove. In addition, 54% said that the country is not better off because of the president’s policies and it needs to move in a new direction, while 41% said the country should proceed in the direction he set out. Voters were even less supportive of Bush’s economic policies – 42% said that the U.S. economy is worse off than it was six years ago, 33% said it is better off and 23% said the economy is unchanged. Voters are much more supportive of Bush’s policies on terrorism and national security – 53% said the country is more secure than it was six years ago as a result of Bush’s handling of the situation, compared to 30% who say it is less secure.

These are highly partisan measures, especially the overall and economy job ratings in which almost all Democrats gave Bush negative ratings and Republicans gave him positive ones, so there is little extra effect on the race. Roughly one in 10 of those who rated Bush negatively overall or on the economy are going to vote for Corker in the Senate race, and roughly one in 20 who gave Bush a positive rating will vote for Ford.

Likely voters who had a candidate preference in the U.S. Senate race were specifically asked if they considered their vote as a referendum on President Bush and his policies, and if so, whether it was a vote for Bush or against him. Overall, 45% said their Senate vote was not about Bush. The remaining voters evenly split over whether they were voting for Bush, or against him.

*Do you think of your vote in the Senate race as a vote for or against George W. Bush and his policies, or do you not think of your vote as being about George W. Bush and his policies?*

-- tables read vertically, not sure refused & other candidates not shown

The George W. Bush effect on Senate race, by Corker and Ford voters:

	All Likely	Corker Voters	Ford Voters
For GW Bush and policies	27	50	3
Against GW Bush and policies	27	2	53
Not about GW Bush	45	46	43

The vote for U.S. Senate by George W. Bush effect:

	For GWB	Against GWB	Not about GWB
Vote for Corker	93	4	53
Vote for Ford	5	90	45

*Party Handling of Issues* : Tennessee likely voters picked Republicans over Democrats as being the best party to handle national security and the war on terrorism, gave Republicans a just-within margin edge on Iraq, and split over which party would be best at handling taxes. Democrats were seen as better at handling immigration, gas prices and the economy.

*Which party do you think can do a better job of handling...*

-- table reads horizontally

	Dem Party	Rep Party	Both/ Neither	D/Know
the Economy	47	41	7	5
Gas Prices	45	24	20	11
Taxes	42	43	9	6
Iraq	39	43	13	5
Immigration Issues	37	30	22	11
National Security & War on Terrorism	36	47	10	7

*Congressional Job Approval / Mark Foley* : When it comes to the job that Congress has been doing, twice as many likely voters in Tennessee disapproved as approved – by 30% approve to 61% disapprove - and two-thirds said that they see no difference between the parties when it comes to ethics and integrity in Congress. Republicans did have a seven point advantage on the issue however, since 13% picked Democrats as the most ethical while 20% picked the GOP.

Nearly one in four likely voters said that the Republican handling of the Foley scandal in Congress has caused them to rethink voting Republican this year, a number which includes 45% of Democrats, 26% of independents and 4% of Republicans who said they were less likely to support Republican candidates. The scandal may well have had an effect on the race in Tennessee – 74% of those who said they were influenced negatively are voting for Ford.

*Iraq and North Korea*: Half of Tennessee likely voters said they don't feel the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, compared to 45% who said they do, even though more did say they feel like the action in Iraq is part of the war on terrorism compared to 42% who see it as separate. Nearly one in five of those who feel that it is part of the overall fight against terrorism said what is going on there is not worth it. More than four out of five of those who think the war is worthwhile are voting for Corker, and just under four out of five of those who think it is not worthwhile are voting for Ford.

When asked which administration – Clinton's or Bush's – should shoulder the blame for North Korea's development of nuclear weapons, 32% said Bush, 31% said Clinton, 6% both, 16% neither, and 15% weren't sure. Nearly two-thirds of Democrats blamed Bush, 60% of Republicans blamed Clinton, and independents were split.



## New Jersey

More than seven out of 10 New Jersey likely voters think the country is off on the wrong track, and nearly three out of five said they hope that Democrats end up in control of Congress after the midterm election. That dissatisfaction may be contributing some momentum to Robert Menendez's efforts to stave off Republican challenger Tom Kean Jr. for the New Jersey U.S. Senate seat he was appointed to when Sen. John Corzine was elected as the state's governor, but it is not sweeping him into office just yet.

With two weeks to go until the election, Menendez is barely holding his own against Kean – with a four point lead inside the poll's 5.5 percentage point margin of error for likely voters. If the election were held today, it would be 41% Kean to 45% Menendez with 12% undecided. In addition to the soft lead for the Democratic incumbent, his support is soft as well – one out of five of his voters said they could change their mind and vote for someone else.

New Jersey tends to vote Democratic – it elected Clinton, Gore and Kerry in the last three presidential elections, ushered Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) back into his U.S. Senate seat for a fourth term in 2002, and elected Menendez himself to seven Congressional terms in a row. However, Tom Kean, Jr. is the son of a popular former New Jersey Governor, and he has been working to taint Menendez with the corruption scandals that have dogged New Jersey elected officials over the past decade.

The Democratic party is associated with corruption by voters somewhat more than the Republican party by 17% to 11%, but the majority of voters – 61% - said that both parties have an equal problem with it. However, that taint may well be hurting Menendez - among those who say that corruption affects both parties equally, Menendez leads Kean by a much wider 16 points than his lead in the state overall - 57% to 41%.

Kean has done a better job of lining up his party behind him than Menendez, only 6% of his party's voters say they are voting for Menendez or someone else, compared to 11% of Democrats who are voting for someone other than Menendez. Nine percent of Democrats aren't sure who they are voting for yet, compared to 3% of Republicans. Even more dramatically, only 77% of Menendez's voters said they are certain they are voting for him, compared to 90% of Kean's.

### Some demographics of the U.S. Senate vote in New Jersey

- table reads horizontally

	Kean	Menendez	S/Else	D/Know
All Likely	41	45	2	12
Party Affiliation				
Democrat	8	80	3	9
Independent	42	41	2	15
Republican	91	6	0	3
Political Ideology				
Liberal	15	75	4	6
Moderate	37	43	2	18
Conservative	69	21	0	10
Race/Ethnicity				
White	43	45	1	11
Non-White	33	48	6	13
Gender				
Male	49	42	3	6
Female	35	48	1	16
Location of Home				
City	47	38	2	13
Suburb	36	48	1	15
Small town	37	53	3	7
Rural	70	22	1	7

*The George W. Bush Effect:* Nearly half of New Jersey likely voters said their Senate vote was a direct vote against George W. Bush and his policies, including 86% of Democrats, 32% of independents, and 9% of Republicans. Nearly three in five said they'd like to see the Democrats have control of Congress after the midterm election on November 7th, and among that group, 74% said they plan to vote for Menendez.

Just under seven in 10 voters said that the country needs to move in a new direction compared to 27% who said that Bush's policies are leading the country where it should go. Just over half said specifically that Bush's economic policies had damaged the economy in the last six years compared to just over a quarter who said that the economy is better off now.

*Do you think of your vote in the Senate race as a vote for or against George W. Bush and his policies, or do you not think of your vote as being about George W. Bush and his policies?*

-- tables reads vertically, not sure, refused and other candidates not shown

\* The George W. Bush effect on Senate race, by Corker and Ford voters:

	All Likely	Kean Voters	Menendez Voters
For GW Bush and policies	23	38	8
Against GW Bush and policies	43	11	74
Not about GW Bush	30	46	15

\* The vote for U.S. Senate by George W. Bush effect:

	For GWB	Against GWB	Not about GWB
Vote for Kean	83	12	75
Vote for Menendez	17	84	24

*Party Handling Issues:* New Jersey voters gave Democrats the edge over Republicans on every issue tested, except national security and terrorism, about which voters were split.

*Which party do you think can do a better job of handling...*

-- table reads horizontally

	Dems	Reps	Both/ Neither	D/Know
the Economy	49	33	10	7
Iraq	47	30	14	9
Taxes	42	35	15	8
Immigration Issues	42	29	21	8
Gas Prices	42	19	23	16
National Security & War on Terrorism	36	38	20	8

*Congressional Job Approval:* New Jersey voters are highly critical of the job Congress has been doing – more than four times as many disapprove as approve – 73% to 16%, and nearly half disapprove strongly but two thirds don't see much difference between the parties when it comes to ethical behavior by representatives of both parties in Congress. Those that did see a difference gave Democrats a six point advantage - 18% compared to 12% who picked Republicans as most ethical.

*Iraq and North Korea:* New Jersey voters are also highly critical of the war in Iraq, with nearly three out of four saying that issues there were not worth going to war over, compared to just over one in five who say it was. Nearly three in 10 say that the U.S. should get out of Iraq now. Three out of five said that the war in Iraq is separate from the overall war on terrorism, a higher proportion than found in any of the other five states. Nearly nine out of 10 of those who think the war is worth it are voting for Kean, while just under three in five of those who do not think it is worthwhile are voting for Menendez.

When asked which administration – Clinton’s or Bush’s – should shoulder the blame for North Korea’s development of nuclear weapons, New Jersey voters split 35% in blame for Bush, 31% blamed Clinton, and 25% said both or neither were to blame. Nearly seven out of 10 among Democrats blamed Bush, and a similar proportion of Republicans blamed Clinton, while 23% of independents blamed Bush, 33% blamed Clinton and more than a third said was both or neither.

## Virginia

Just under three out of five Virginia likely voters see the country as being off on the wrong track, while only a third say it is going in the right direction. By 11 points they’d prefer Democrats to Republicans as the majority party in Congress after the midterm election, but voters are only giving a very slight and well within margin lead to the Democrat –James Webb - in his bid to take the seat out from under Republican incumbent U.S. Senator George Allen.

If the election were held today, Webb is barely edging Allen 47% to 44% with 3% voting for someone else and 6% not sure. That is a lead well inside the five point margin of error for likely voters in Virginia. Nearly nine out of 10 Virginia voters say they are certain of their vote, including 92% of Allen’s voters and 88% of Webb’s.

Allen’s campaign has been dogged by questions about his racial sensitivity and character but a 55% majority of Virginia voters say that where a candidate stands on the issues is more important to them than his character. Amusingly, Webb leads by 51% to 43% among those who say issues are most important while Allen gets the vote among those who say character is most important.

Both candidates are enjoying similarly strong backings among voters of their own parties – about nine out of ten in each case. In addition, voters are sure of their votes - more than nine out of 10 of Allen’s voters say they are certain they will vote for him, and Webb has a strong 88% certainty as well. In each case only 6% say they are still considering their votes.

Independents and in particular moderates are backing Webb by strong margins, along with women and urban dwellers, while Allen picks up the vote among whites, men, and those living in rural areas of the state.

### Some demographics of the U.S. Senate vote in Virginia

- table reads horizontally

	Allen	Webb	S/Else	D/Know
All Likely	44	47	3	6
Party Affiliation				
Democrat	6	89	1	4
Independent	39	48	2	11
Republican	90	6	1	3
Political Ideology				
Liberal	8	83	1	8
Moderate	26	60	8	6
Conservative	77	19	0	4
Race/Ethnicity				
White	50	44	2	4
Non-White	20	56	7	17
Gender				
Male	49	43	3	5
Female	39	51	2	8
Location of Home				
City	33	60	2	5
Suburb	45	45	1	9
Small town	40	46	10	4
Rural	60	33	1	6

*The George W. Bush Effect:* Virginia is a Republican state – voters there picked Bush in the last two elections and Dole before that, but a 49% plurality of voters said that they would like to see Democrats take control of the Congress after the midterm elections compared to 38% who want to maintain the status quo. Bush job approval stands at 44% in Virginia, compared to 52% disapproval, but only roughly a third want the country to continue in the direction Bush has set out, compared to 60% who say it should move in a new direction. By 44% to 36%, they consider Bush’s economic policies to have hurt, rather than helped, the economy over the past six years. Voters are more appreciative of Bush’s policies on terrorism and national security – 50% say the country is more secure as a result, 36% said less secure, and 12% said it has made no difference.

Among those who approve of the overall job Bush has been doing, 84% back Allen, compared to the 81% who back Webb among those who disapprove.

A 44% plurality of Virginia likely voters said that they are casting their vote in the U.S. Senate race specifically to send a message against Bush and his policies, compared to 19% who said it is a vote of confidence in Bush and 33% who said they don’t think about it that way. Almost four out of five of Webb’s voters think of their vote for him as a message against Bush.

*Do you think of your vote in the Senate race as a vote for or against George W. Bush and his policies, or do you not think of your vote as being about George W. Bush and his policies?*

-- tables read vertically, not sure, refused & other candidates not shown

\* The George W. Bush effect on Senate race, by Corker and Ford voters:

	All Likely	Allen Voters	Webb Voters
For GW Bush and policies	19	36	4
Against GW Bush and policies	44	10	78
Not about GW Bush	33	48	16

\* The vote for U.S. Senate by George W. Bush effect

	For GWB	Against GWB	Not about GWB
Vote for Allen	89	10	69
Vote for Webb	11	88	25

*Party Handling Issues:* Virginia voters picked Republicans over Democrats as the party that can best handle national security and terrorism, but on all other measures picked Democrats. Democrats were ahead of Republicans on the issue of the war in Iraq by 8 points, handling taxes by 6 points, immigration by 7 points, gas prices by 16 points, and the economy by 9.

*Which party do you think can do a better job of handling...*

-- table reads horizontally

	Dems	Reps	Both/ Neither	D/Know
National security & war on Terrorism	39	45	12	4
Iraq	45	37	15	3
Taxes	46	40	10	4
Immigration Issues	40	33	18	9
Gas Prices	44	28	23	5
the Economy	48	39	8	5

*Congressional Job Approval / Mark Foley:* Seven in 10 voters disapprove of the job Congress is doing compared with just under one out of four who approve. They picked Democrats over Republicans by 21% to 13% on the party that is more ethical in Congress, although more than six in 10 said there is not much difference. Nearly three in 10 said that the way the Mark Foley scandal was handled in Congress made them less inclined to vote for a Republican and among that group a whopping 80% are backing Webb. Among the larger group who said it was not affecting their vote, Allen leads 61% to 32%.

*Iraq and North Korea:* Virginia voters are not supportive of the war in Iraq – 59% said it is not worth it compared to 35% said it is. More than half said they consider it separate from the war on terrorism, compared to 43% who say it is part of it. Allen leads Webb 79% to 10% among those who are supporting the war, while Webb is ahead 71% to 21% among those who are opposed.

Virginia voters blame the Bush administration for North Korea's development of a nuclear weapon more so than Clinton's by 34% to 29% while 27% say that both or neither are at fault.

***Analysis by Susan H. Pinkus and Jill Darling Richardson***

## Results from the Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg Poll

October 20-23, 2006

(Five States Pre-Election Survey: Ohio, Missouri, Tennessee, New Jersey, and Virginia)

### Guide to Column Headings

OHIO	Likely voters in state of Ohio
MO	Likely voters in state of Missouri
TENN	Likely voters in state of Tennessee
NEWJ	Likely voters in state of New Jersey
VIRG	Likely voters in state of Virginia

#### Note:

- (vol.) indicates a volunteered response
- ‘-’ indicates of less than 0.5%
- Question 14 is the certainty of vote. It is asked in each state, following the senate race question.

Q1. Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Right direction	28	34	35	23	33
Wrong track	67	62	60	71	59
Don't know	5	4	5	6	8

(ORDER OF CANDIDATES IS ROTATED IN EACH STATE'S U.S. SENATE RACE QUESTION)  
(Q14 WAS ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAD A CANDIDATE PREFERENCE)

**(OHIO)**

Q4. If the November general election for U.S. Senator were being held today and the choices were Mike DeWine, the Republican and Sherrod Brown, the Democrat, for whom would you vote: DeWine or Brown, or would you vote for someone else?  
(INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>OHIO</u>
DeWine	39
Brown	47
Someone else (vol.)	3
Don't know	11

Q14. Are you certain you're going to vote for that candidate, or is it possible that you might end up voting for somebody else?

	<u>OHIO</u>
Certain	83
Might vote for somebody else	16
Don't know	1

Q5. As you may know, Mike DeWine has supported the North American Free Trade Agreement, known as NAFTA, and other trade agreements because he believes that lowering barriers to trade with other nations expands markets for American products and creates jobs for American workers. Sherrod Brown voted against NAFTA and other trade agreements because he believes that the agreements are unfair and they help U.S. companies outsource jobs overseas. Does knowing the candidates position on trade, make you more likely to vote for DeWine or more likely to vote for Brown, or would it not make a difference in your vote one way or the other?

	<u>OHIO</u>
More likely to vote DeWine	21
More likely to vote Brown	29
No difference	47
Don't know	3

**(MISSOURI)**

Q6. If the November general election for U.S. Senator were being held today and the choices were Jim Talent, the Republican and Claire McCaskill, the Democrat, for whom would you vote: Talent or McCaskill, or would you vote for someone else?

(INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>MO</u>
Talent	<b>48</b>
McCaskill	<b>45</b>
Someone else (vol.)	<b>3</b>
Don't know	<b>4</b>

Q14. Are you certain you're going to vote for that candidate, or is it possible that you might end up voting for somebody else?

	<u>MO</u>
Certain	<b>90</b>
Might vote for somebody else	<b>10</b>
Don't know	<b>-</b>

Q7. As you may know, there is a stem cell initiative on the ballot next month called Constitutional Amendment 2. The amendment will allow and set limitations on stem cell research. It will ensure Missouri patients access to any therapies and cures, and allow Missouri researchers to conduct any research, permitted under federal law. It also bans human cloning or attempted cloning, as well as requiring expert medical and public oversight and annual reports on the research. It would impose criminal and civil penalties for any violations. Having heard more, if the general election were being held today, would you vote for or against this initiative?

(INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>MO</u>
Vote yes	<b>58</b>
Vote no	<b>35</b>
Haven't heard enough (vol.)	<b>3</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>



**(TENNESSEE)**

Q8. If the November general election for U.S. Senator were being held today and the choices were Bob Corker, the Republican and Harold Ford Jr., the Democrat, for whom would you vote: Corker or Ford, or would you vote for someone else?

(INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>TENN</u>
Corker	49
Ford Jr.	44
Someone else (vol.)	3
Don't know	4

Q14. Are you certain you're going to vote for that candidate, or is it possible that you might end up voting for somebody else?

	<u>TENN</u>
Certain	90
Might vote for somebody else	9
Don't know	1

Q9. Regardless of how you will vote in the U.S. Senate race, who do you think has a higher standard of honesty and integrity: Bob Corker or Harold Ford, Jr., or do you not think there is any difference between the two candidates when it comes to honesty and integrity?

	<u>TENN</u>
Corker	34
Ford Jr.	29
No difference	31
Don't know	6

**(NEW JERSEY)**

Q10. If the November general election for U.S. Senator were being held today and the choices were Tom Kean Jr., the Republican and Robert Menendez, the Democrat, for whom would you vote: Kean or Mendendez, or would you vote for someone else?

(INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>NEWJ</u>
Kean Jr.	41
Menendez	45
Someone else (vol.)	2
Don't know	12

Q14. Are you certain you're going to vote for that candidate, or is it possible that you might end up voting for somebody else?

	<u>NEWJ</u>
Certain	83
Might vote for somebody else	14
Don't know	3

(ORDER OF POLITICAL PARTIES IS ROTATED)

Q11. Thinking about the Democratic and Republican elected officials in New Jersey: do you think one of the two major political parties in New Jersey has a greater problem with corruption among its elected officials than the other party, or are the parties equal in terms of corruption, or is there no real problem with corruption in either party? (IF YES) Which party has a greater problem with corruption: the Democrats or the Republicans?

	<u>NEWJ</u>
Democrats	17
Republicans	11
Corruption equal in both parties	61
No real corruption in either party	3
Don't know	8

**(VIRGINIA)**

Q12. If the November general election for U.S. Senator were being held today and the choices were George Allen, the Republican and Jim Webb, the Democrat, for whom would you vote: Allen or Webb, or would you vote for someone else (INCLUDES LEANERS)

	<u>VIRG</u>
Allen	44
Webb	47
Someone else (vol.)	3
Don't know	6

Q14. Are you certain you're going to vote for that candidate, or is it possible that you might end up voting for somebody else?

	<u>VIRG</u>
Certain	87
Might vote for somebody else	8
Don't know	5

Q13. What's more important to you when you decide whom you are going to vote for, for U.S. Senator on November 7th: a candidate's character or how a candidate stands on the issues?

	<u>VIRG</u>
Candidate's character	14
How candidate stands on the issues	55
Both (vol.)	29
Don't know	2

**(ASKED OF ALL VOTERS IN EACH STATE)**

Q15. Do you think of your vote in the Senate race as a vote for or against George W. Bush and his policies, or do you not think of your vote as being about George W. Bush and his policies?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Vote for Bush	19	19	27	23	19
Vote against Bush	33	33	27	43	44
Don't think of vote to be about Bush's presidency	45	45	45	30	33
Don't know	3	3	1	4	4

Q16. After the election in November, would you like to see the Democrats take control of Congress, or would you like to see the Republicans continue to be in control of Congress?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats in control	56	49	47	57	49
Republicans keep control	32	39	44	30	38
Each party control one house of Congress (vol.)	4	2	2	4	4
Don't know	8	10	7	9	9

(ORDER OF NEXT SIX QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q17. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling national security and the war on terrorism?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	39	31	36	36	39
Republicans	41	46	47	38	45
Both equally (vol.)	8	6	3	6	3
Neither (vol.)	6	9	7	14	9
Don't know	6	8	7	6	4

Q18. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling the situation in Iraq?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	44	40	39	47	45
Republicans	32	38	43	30	37
Both equally (vol.)	4	3	3	1	2
Neither (vol.)	12	11	10	13	13
Don't know	8	8	5	9	3

Q19. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling taxes?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	51	42	42	42	46
Republicans	35	42	43	35	40
Both equally (vol.)	3	2	2	6	1
Neither (vol.)	5	10	7	9	9
Don't know	6	4	6	8	4

Q20. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling immigration issues?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	40	36	37	42	40
Republicans	28	34	30	29	33
Both equally (vol.)	3	4	5	2	2
Neither (vol.)	15	16	17	19	16
Don't know	14	10	11	8	9

Q21. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling gas prices?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	50	42	45	42	44
Republicans	17	21	24	19	28
Both equally (vol.)	2	4	4	2	1
Neither (vol.)	21	23	16	21	22
Don't know	10	10	11	16	5

Q22. Which party do you think can do a better job of handling the economy?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats	56	44	47	49	48
Republicans	30	41	41	33	39
Both equally (vol.)	2	3	2	5	3
Neither (vol.)	6	8	5	5	5
Don't know	6	4	5	8	5

Q23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE)  
Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Approve (net)	39	47	49	34	44
Approve strongly	20	28	31	20	25
Approve somewhat	19	19	18	14	19
Disapprove (net)	60	52	50	63	52
Disapprove somewhat	11	16	9	12	6
Disapprove strongly	49	36	41	51	46
Don't know	1	1	1	3	4

Q24. Would you say the country is better off because of George W. Bush's policies and should proceed in the direction he set out, or do you think the country is not better off and needs to move in a new direction?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Continue policies of Bush	32	36	41	27	34
Needs a new direction	64	61	54	68	60
Don't know	4	3	5	5	6

Q25. Would you say the country's economy is better off because of George W. Bush's economic policies than when he became president six years ago, or worse off, or is the country's economy about the same as it was then? (IF BETTER OR WORSE) Is the country's economy much (better/worse) off or only somewhat (better/worse) off?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Better (net)	26	33	33	26	36
Much better off	12	19	17	14	23
Somewhat better off	14	14	16	12	13
Worse (net)	51	41	42	53	44
Somewhat worse off	14	15	13	14	16
Much worse off	37	26	29	39	28
About the same	20	24	23	20	18
Don't know	3	3	2	1	2

Q26. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Approve (net)	21	32	30	16	24
Approve strongly	3	6	5	2	3
Approve somewhat	18	25	25	14	21
Disapprove (net)	71	59	61	73	70
Disapprove somewhat	25	23	30	26	25
Disapprove strongly	46	36	31	48	45
Don't know	8	9	9	11	6

Q27. Generally speaking, do you think the Democrats in Congress are more ethical and honest than the Republicans, or are the Republicans more ethical and honest than the Democrats or isn't there much difference between the two parties in Congress on this issue?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Democrats are more ethical and honest	20	16	13	18	21
Republicans are more ethical and honest	10	14	20	12	13
No difference	69	69	66	65	63
Don't know	1	1	1	5	3

As you may know, Republican Congressman Mark Foley resigned after it was reported that he sent emails with sexual overtones to a 16 year old male congressional page.

Q28. Has the way the Republican congressional leadership handled the Mark Foley matter made you more or less likely to vote for a Republican this year, or has the Foley matter not made a difference in your vote one way or the other? (IF MORE OR LESS LIKELY) Has it made you much (more/less) likely to vote for a Republican or only somewhat (more/less) likely?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
More likely (net)	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>
Much more likely	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Somewhat more likely	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>
Less likely (net)	<u>26</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>28</u>
Somewhat less likely	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>
Much less likely	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
No difference	<u>72</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>63</u>
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Q29. Would you say George W. Bush's policies on terrorism and national security have made the country more secure over the past six years, or less secure, or have the president's policies not made a difference one way or the other? (IF MORE OR LESS) Have Bush's policies on terrorism and national security made the country much (more/less) secure or only somewhat (more/less) secure?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
More secure (net)	<u>46</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>50</u>
Much more secure	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>35</u>
Somewhat more secure	<u>22</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>
Less secure (net)	<u>36</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>36</u>
Somewhat less secure	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>
Much less secure	<u>25</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
No difference one way or other	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Q30. All in all, do you think the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, or not?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Yes, worth going to war	<u>32</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>35</u>
No, not worth going to war	<u>63</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>59</u>
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

Q31. Do you think the United States should maintain a significant number of troops in Iraq for as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country, or do you think that the troops should come home in a set amount of time no matter what happens in Iraq? (IF SET AMOUNT OF TIME) How much longer should the U.S. maintain troops in Iraq?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Less than a year (net)	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
A few months	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
About a year	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
1-2 years	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>
More than 2 years (net)	<u>41</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>37</u>
As long as it takes	<u>38</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>35</u>
Longer than two years	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Set amount of time, but not sure how long	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
Get out now/immediately (vol.)	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>21</u>
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>

Q32. Do you think of the war with Iraq as part of the war against terrorism, or as separate from the war against terrorism?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Part of the war against terrorism	<u>45</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>43</u>
Separate from the war against terrorism	<u>51</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>52</u>
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>

(ORDER OF BUSH/CLINTON ADMINISTRATION TEXT ROTATED WITHIN THE QUESTION)

Q33. As you may know, North Korea has conducted a nuclear weapons test. Generally speaking, which administration do you think is more to blame for allowing North Korea to develop a nuclear weapon - the Bush administration, or the Clinton administration?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Bush administration	<u>38</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>34</u>
Clinton administration	<u>25</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>29</u>
Both (vol.)	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
Neither (vol.)	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>
Don't know	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

Q34. Lots of people don't pay much attention to political campaigns. How about you? So far this year, would you say you have been very interested in following the political campaign for U.S. Senator, or somewhat interested, or somewhat uninterested, or very uninterested in following the political campaign for U.S. Senator so far this year?

	<u>OHIO</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>TENN</u>	<u>NEWJ</u>	<u>VIRG</u>
Interested (net)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Very interested	<u>47</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>56</u>
Somewhat interested	<u>53</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>44</u>



## Methodology

The Times Poll contacted 3,630 adults in five state samples - Ohio, Missouri, Tennessee, New Jersey, and Virginia. Ohio sample has 653 registered voters, including 507 voters deemed likely to vote; Missouri: 768 registered, including 593 likely voters; Tennessee: 666 registered, including 515 likely voters; New Jersey: 495 registered, including 314 likely voters and Virginia: 529 registered, including 385 likely voters. Among all registered voters in each state, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points; and for likely voters in Ohio, Missouri and Tennessee it is 4 points; for Virginia it is 5 points and for New Jersey, it is 5.5 points. Likely voters were determined by a screening process which included questions on intention to vote, certainty of vote, interest in the campaign, and past voting history. All interviews were conducted by telephone October 20 through 23, 2006. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation, and random digit dialing techniques allowed listed and unlisted numbers to be contacted. Multiple attempts were made to contact each number. Adults were weighted slightly to conform with their respective census figures for sex, race, age, and education, and in New Jersey, by party registration. For certain subgroups in all samples, error margins may be somewhat higher. Poll results may also be affected by factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented. Telephone interviews in New Jersey and Virginia were supervised by Interviewing Services of America, Van Nuys.