



# National Public Radio National Survey

Key Findings From a National Survey  
of 800 Likely Voters

December 7 & 9-10, 2006



*Project #061942*

**GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER RESEARCH**



# Methodology



Public Opinion Strategies and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research are pleased to present National Public Radio with the key findings of a national telephone survey of 800 likely voters. The survey, which was completed December 7 and 9-10, 2006, has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.46 percentage points ( $\pm 3.46\%$ ).

The survey was developed by the two firms and NPR. This is our 21st survey in the NPR series.

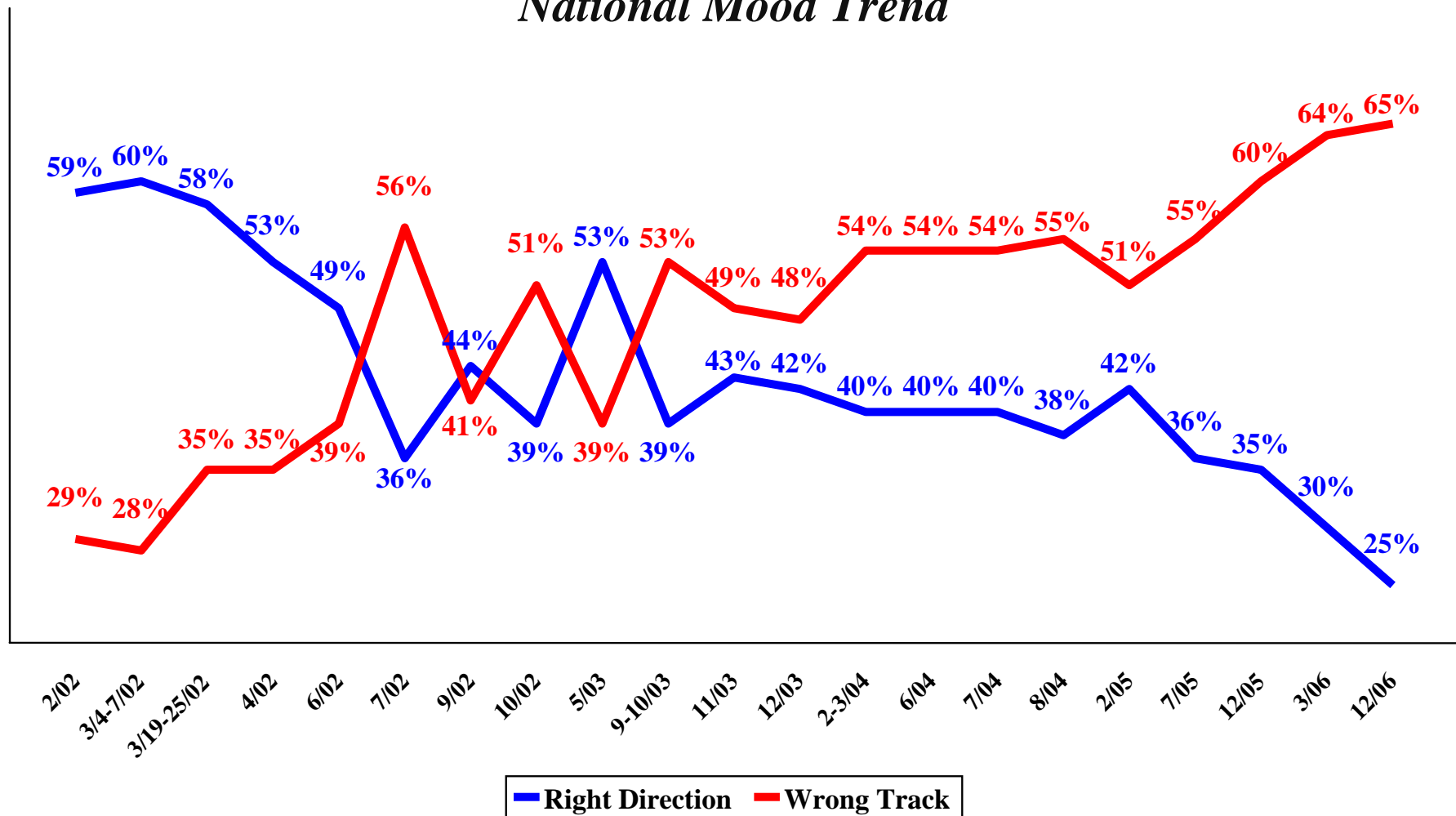


# Political Environment



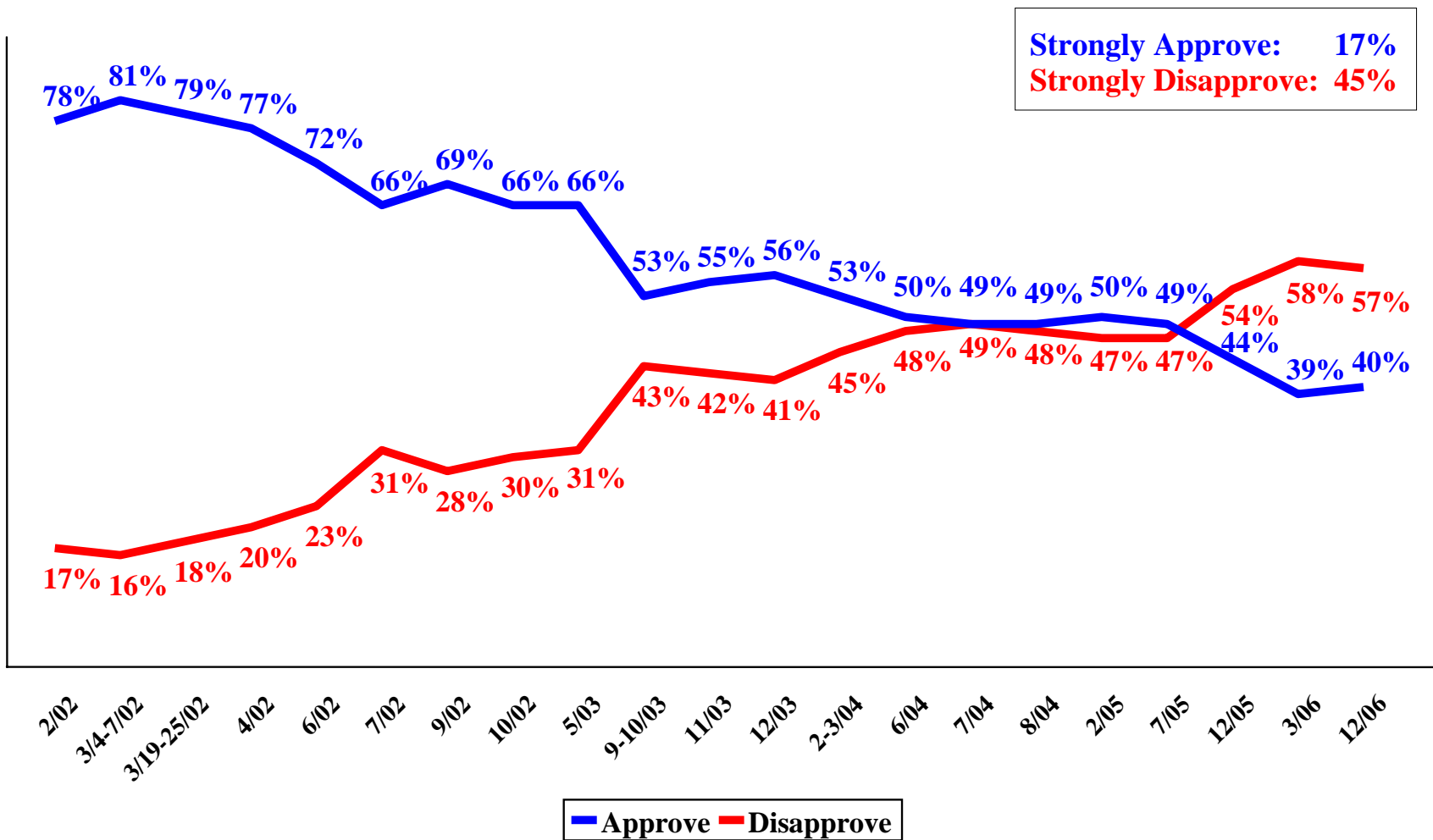
# Voters continue to be pessimistic about the direction of the country.

*National Mood Trend*



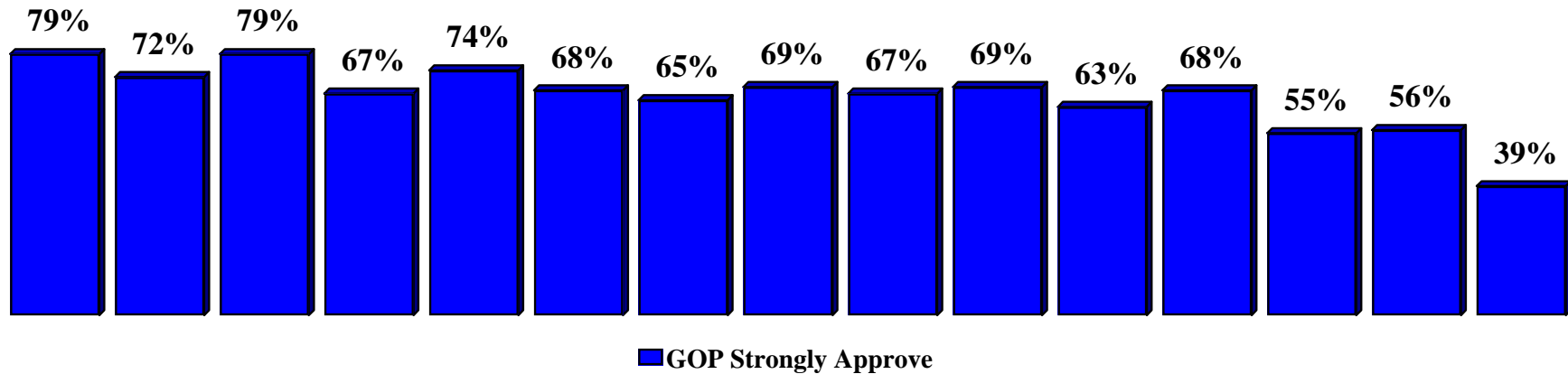
# A majority disapprove of the President.

## Bush Approval Trend



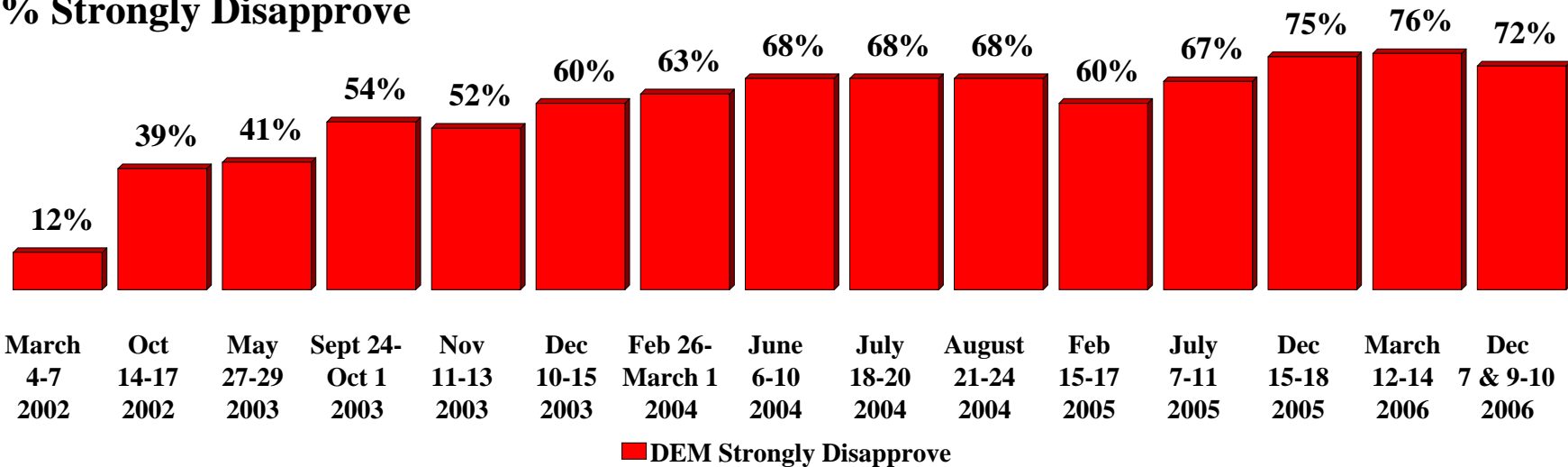
## Presidential Job Approval Among Republicans

% Strongly Approve



## Presidential Job Approval Among Democrats

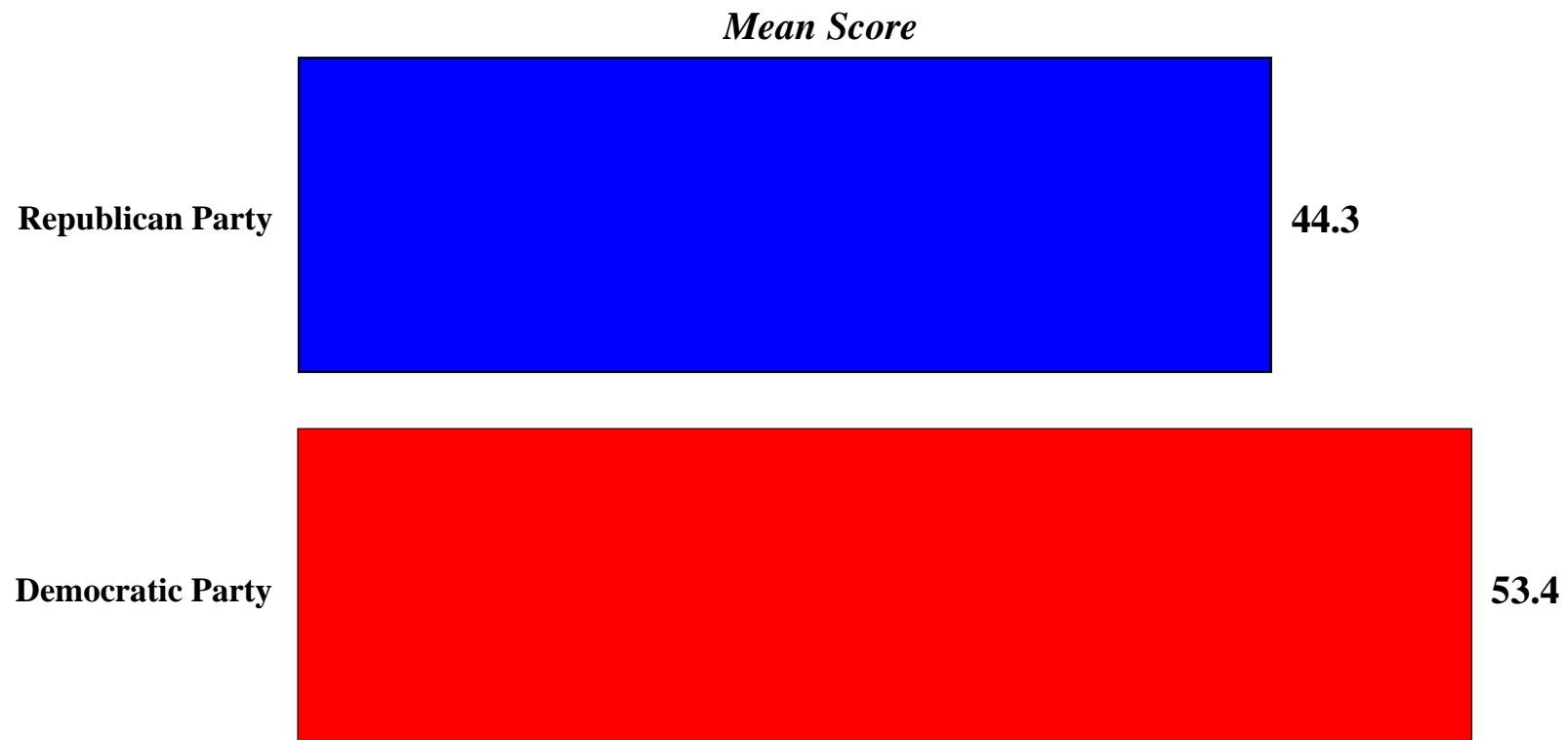
% Strongly Disapprove



*“And, do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as President?”*

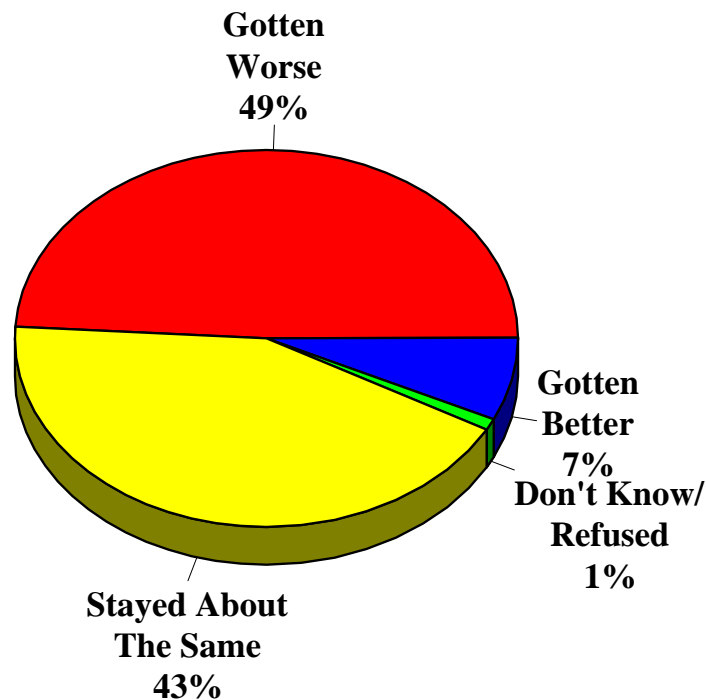
## Voters are lukewarm to both political parties but give higher thermometer scores to the Democratic Party.

*“Now, I would like to read you a list of different organizations or groups that are active in politics. Please tell me, for each one, your feelings about that particular organization or group using a scale from zero to one hundred, where zero means you have a VERY UNFAVORABLE feeling and where one hundred means you have a VERY FAVORABLE feeling of that organization or group. Of course, you may choose any number between zero and one hundred.”*

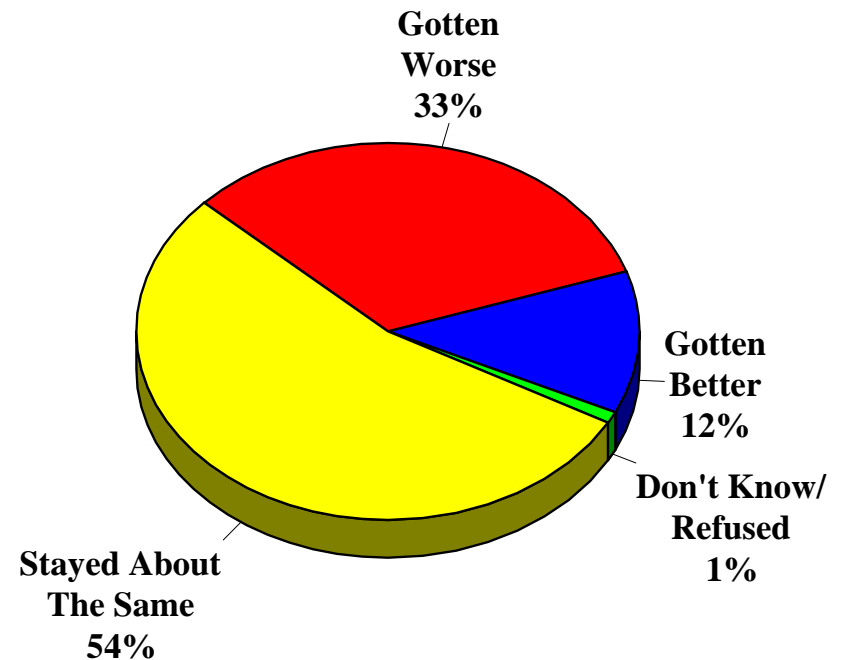


# A plurality of voters say their opinion of the Republican Party has gotten worse, while a majority say their opinion of the Democratic Party is unchanged.

*“Thinking about the last ten years or so, has your opinion of the Republican Party gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?”*

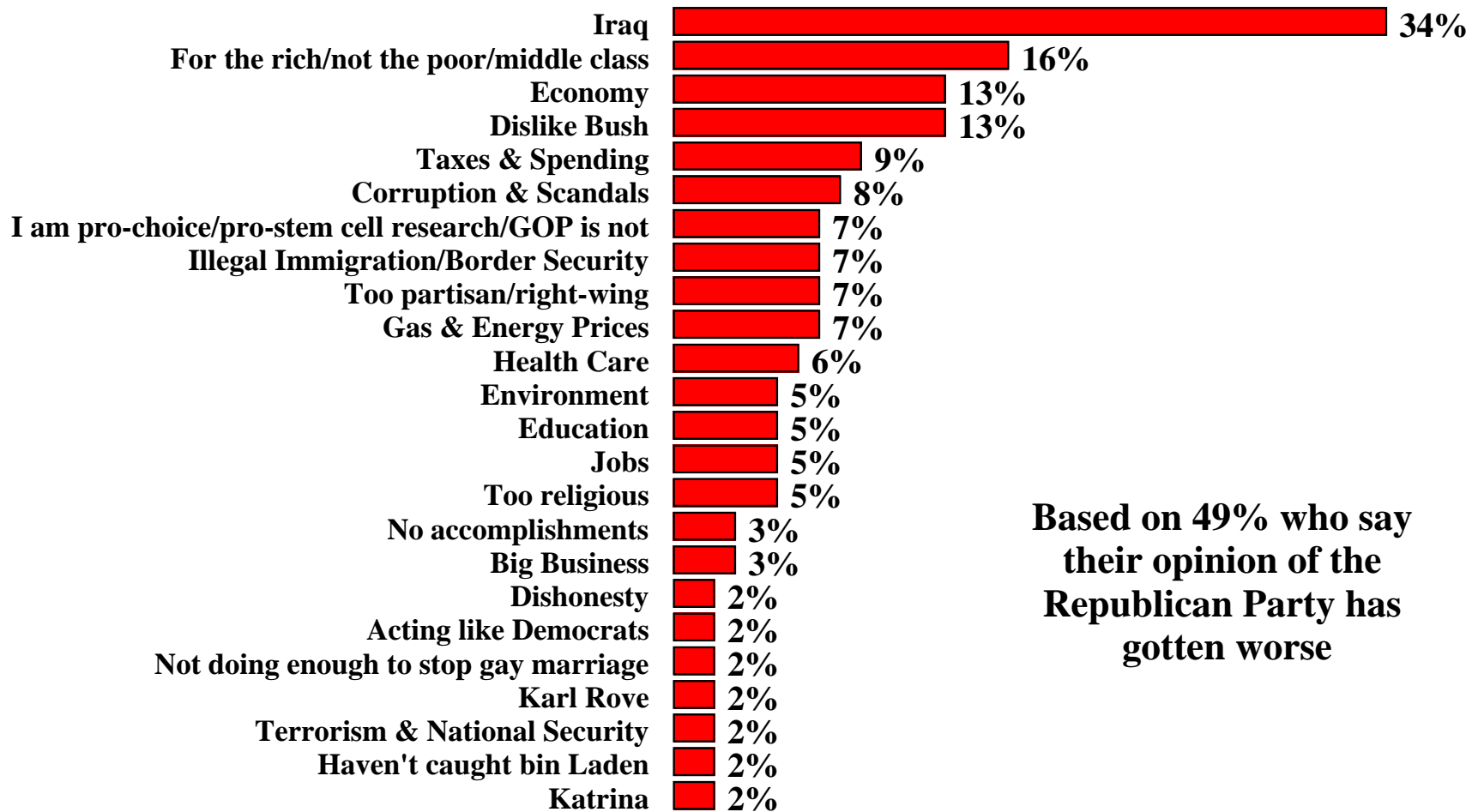


*“Thinking about the last ten years or so, has your opinion of the Democratic Party gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?”*



# Voters who have grown less favorable toward Republicans are most concerned about Iraq.

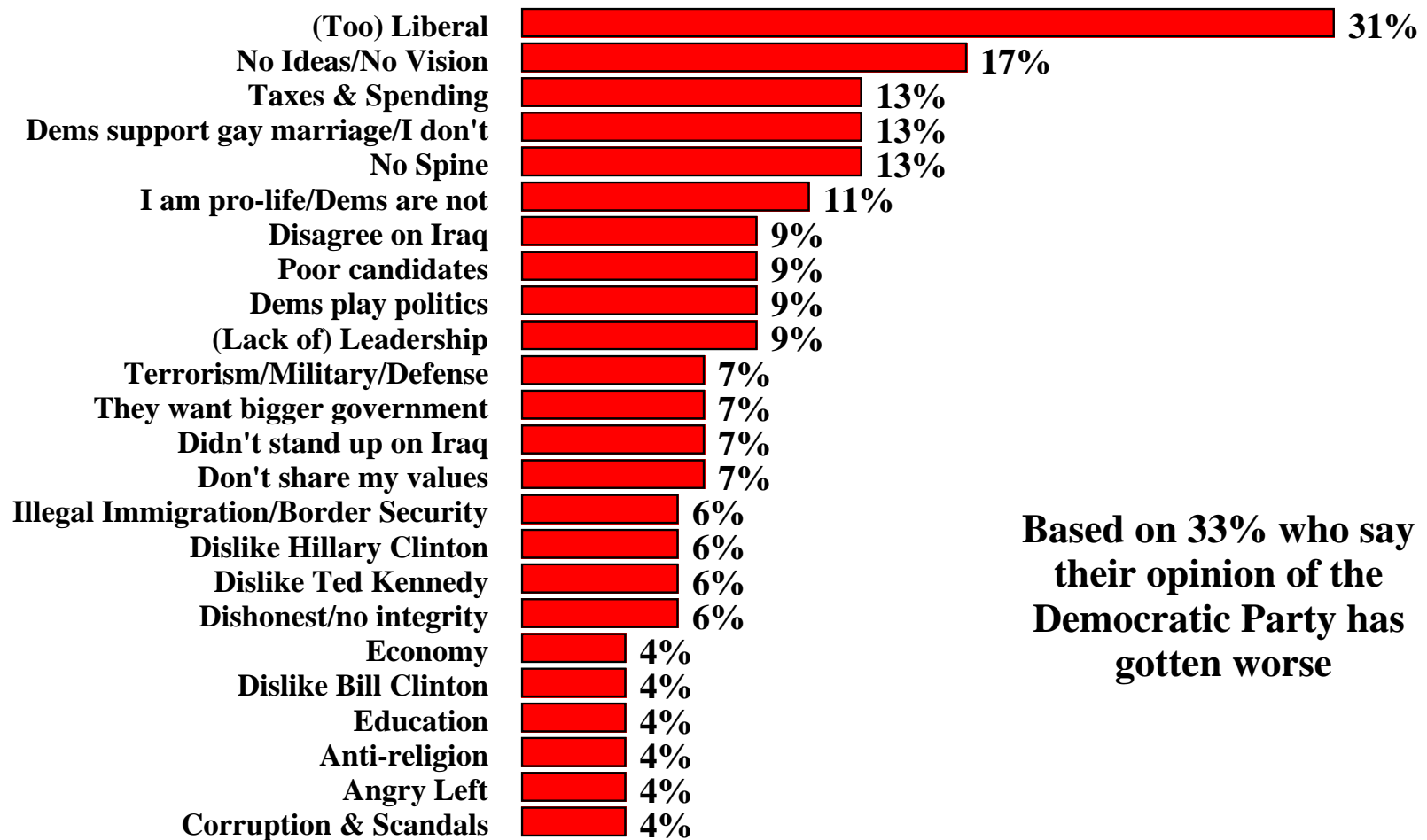
*“What are two or three reasons why your opinion of the Republican Party has gotten worse?”*



**Based on 49% who say their opinion of the Republican Party has gotten worse**

# Voters who have grown less favorable toward Democrats say the party is too liberal.

*“What are two or three reasons why your opinion of the Democratic Party has gotten worse?”*



**Based on 33% who say their opinion of the Democratic Party has gotten worse**



# 2008 Elections

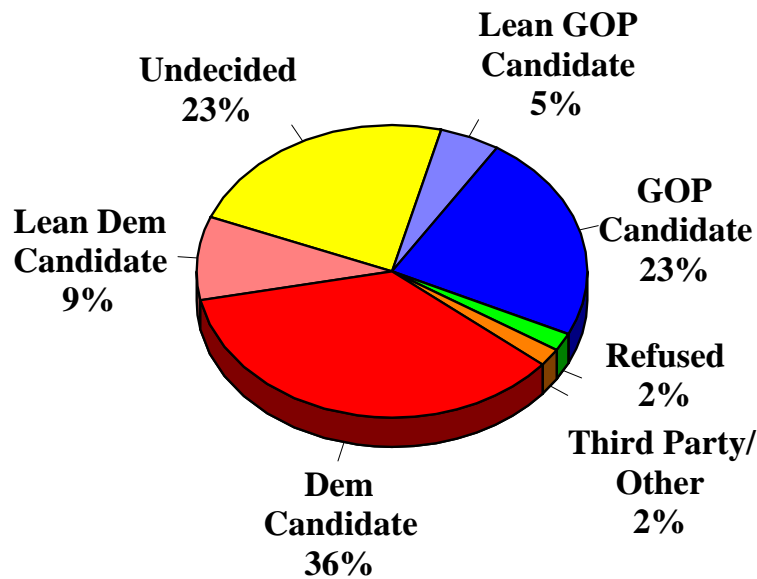


# On the generic presidential ballot, the Democrat leads by 18 points. A majority of Independents are uncommitted.

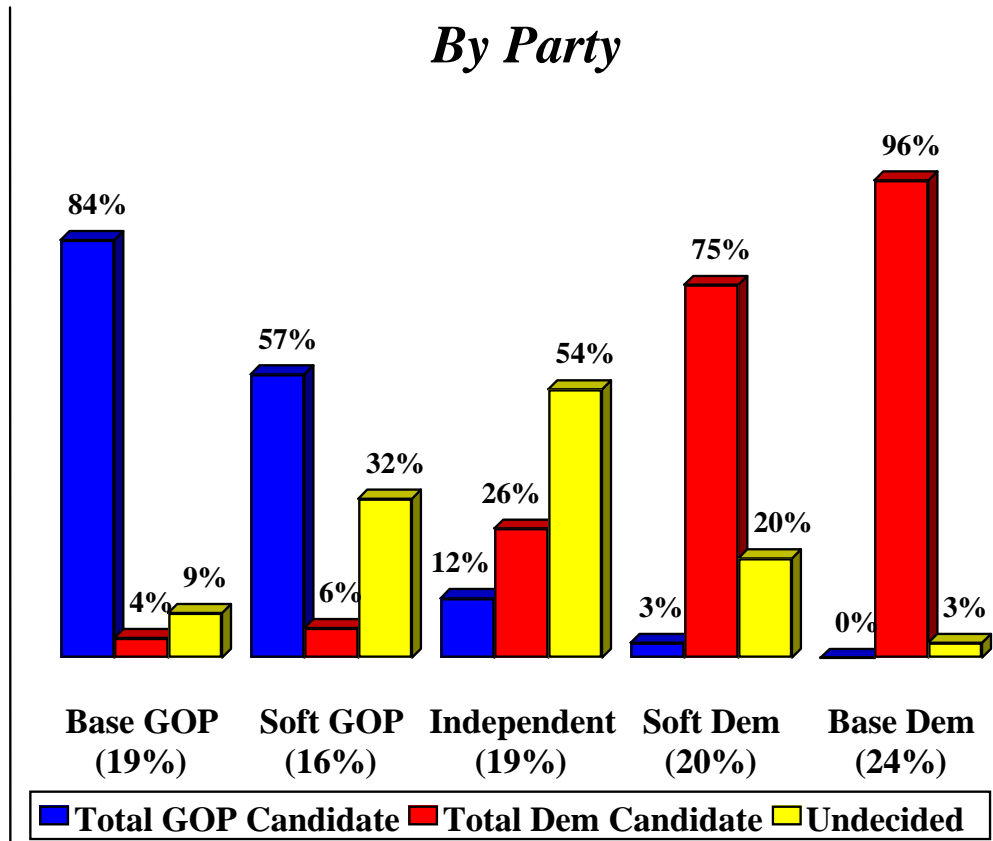
*“If the election for President in the year 2008 were being held today, for whom would you vote... the Republican candidate ...or... the Democratic candidate?”*  
 (If Undecided: *“As of today, which way do you lean, more toward the Republican candidate ...or... the Democratic candidate?”*)

**Overall**

**Total GOP Candidate: 28%**  
**Total Dem Candidate: 46%\***



**By Party**



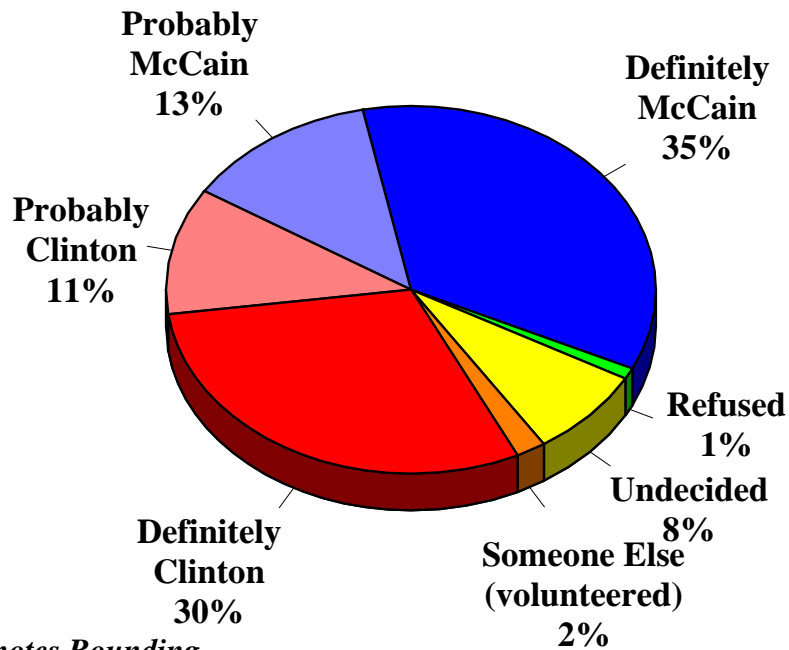
\*Denotes Rounding

# McCain leads Clinton by seven points on the ballot. A Romney-Obama match-up shows the Democrat out front, but the undecided vote is much higher.

*“If the election for President were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were...”*

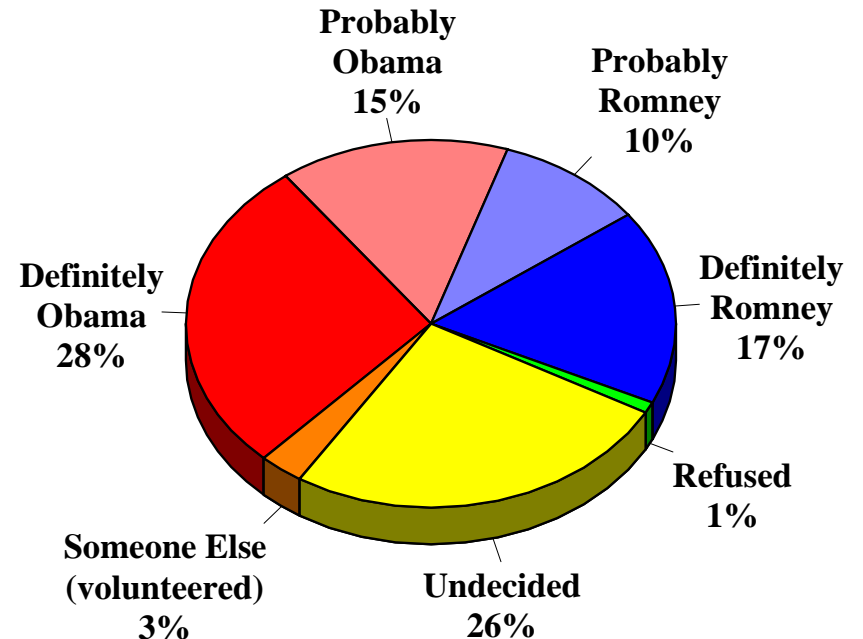
*John McCain, Republican ...and...  
Hillary Clinton, Democrat*

<b>Total McCain:</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>Total Clinton:</b>	<b>41%</b>



*Mitt Romney, Republican ...and...  
Barack Obama, Democrat*

<b>Total Romney:</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Total Obama:</b>	<b>43%</b>



*\*Denotes Rounding*

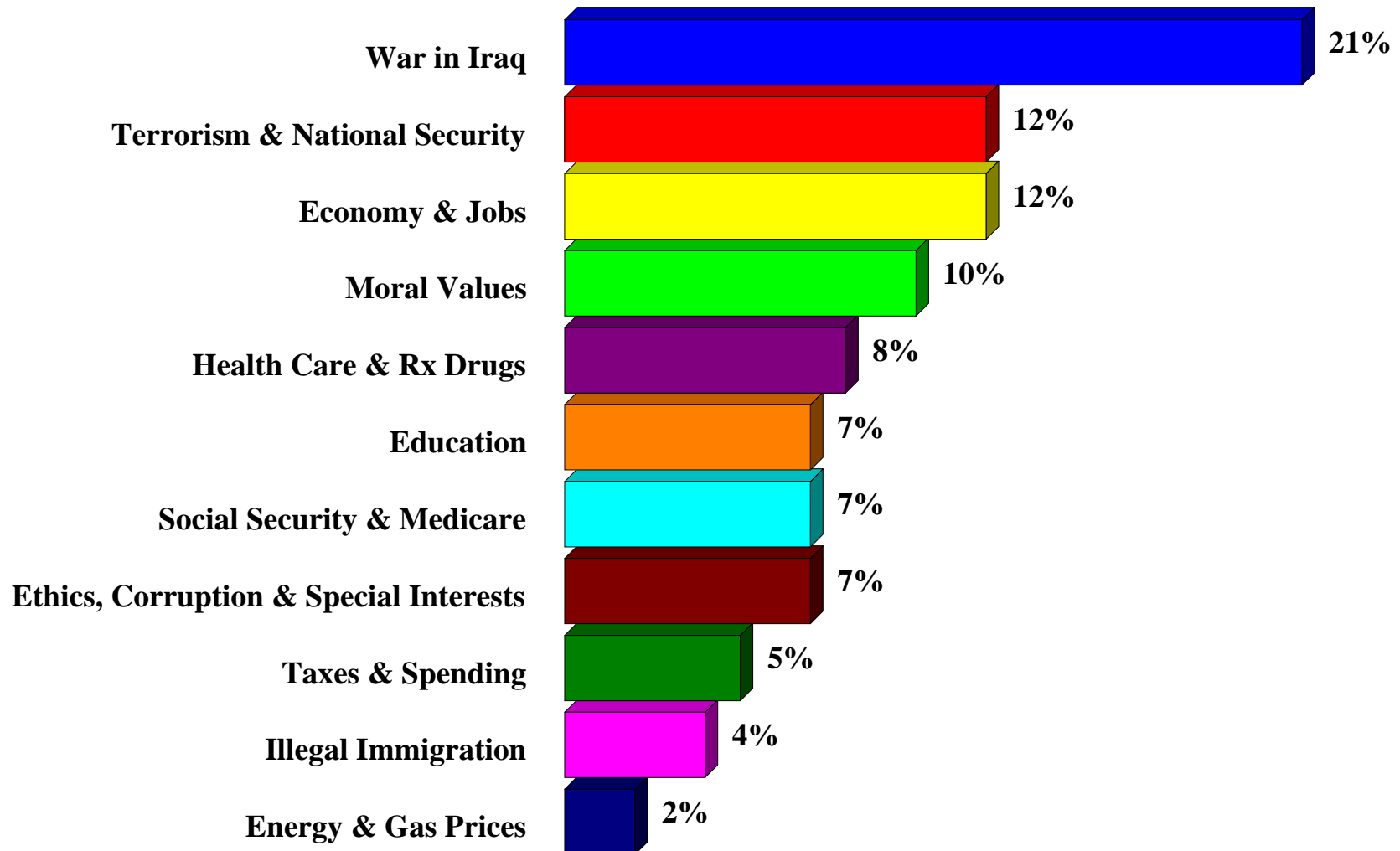


# High-Profile Issues Debate



## Iraq is by far the top issue priority.

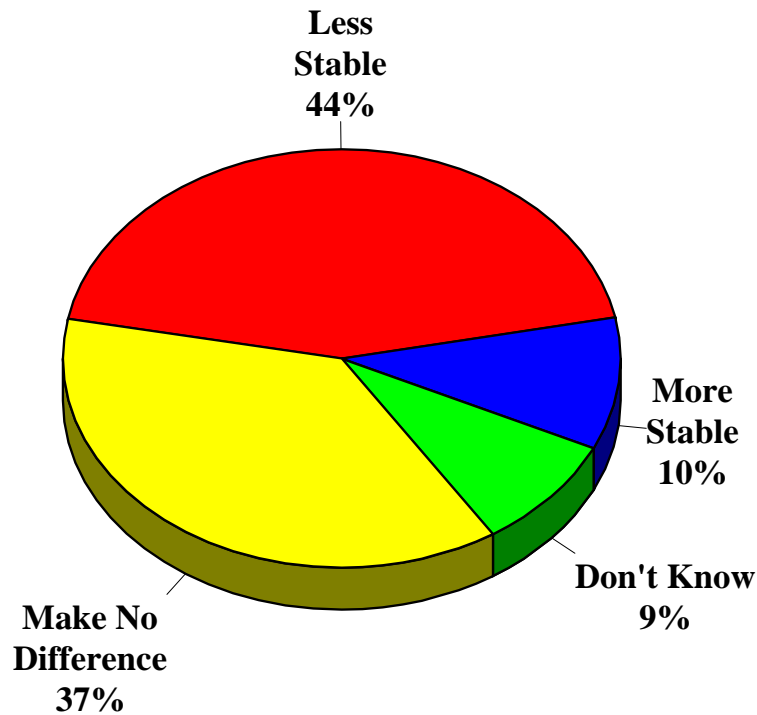
*“Which ONE of the following issues is currently MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for President?”*



# A plurality say that withdrawing American troops from Iraq will make the country less stable – but they also believe that staying in Iraq will make no difference.

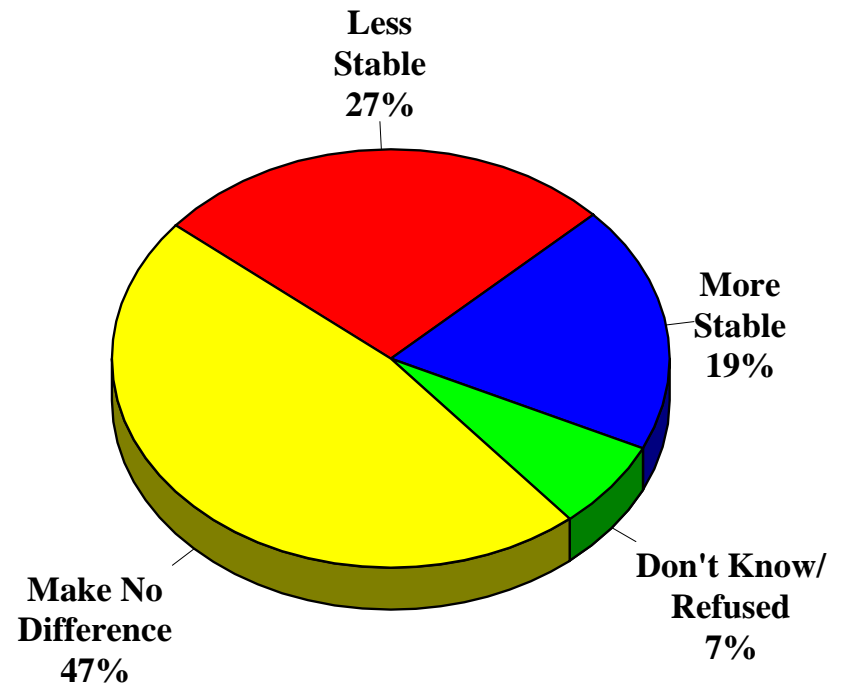
*“Thinking about Iraq... If the U.S. begins withdrawing American troops from Iraq during the first half of next year, do you think the situation in Iraq would become more stable, less stable, or would it not make any difference?”*

Split Sample, N=398



*“Thinking about Iraq... If the U.S. maintains the American troop presence in Iraq next year, do you think the situation in Iraq would become more stable, less stable, or would it not make any difference?”*

Split Sample, N=402

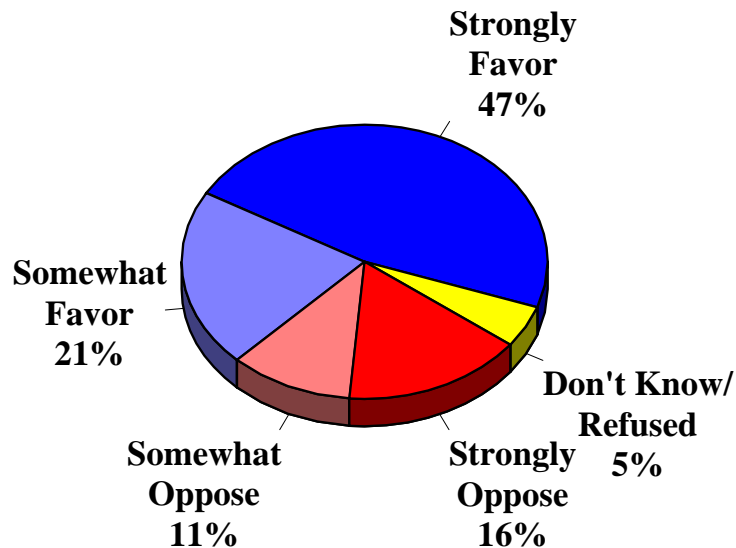


# Two-thirds of voters – and a sizable number of Republicans – agree we should begin withdrawing our troops in the next six months.

*“Do you favor or oppose beginning to withdraw United States troops from Iraq during the first half of next year?”*

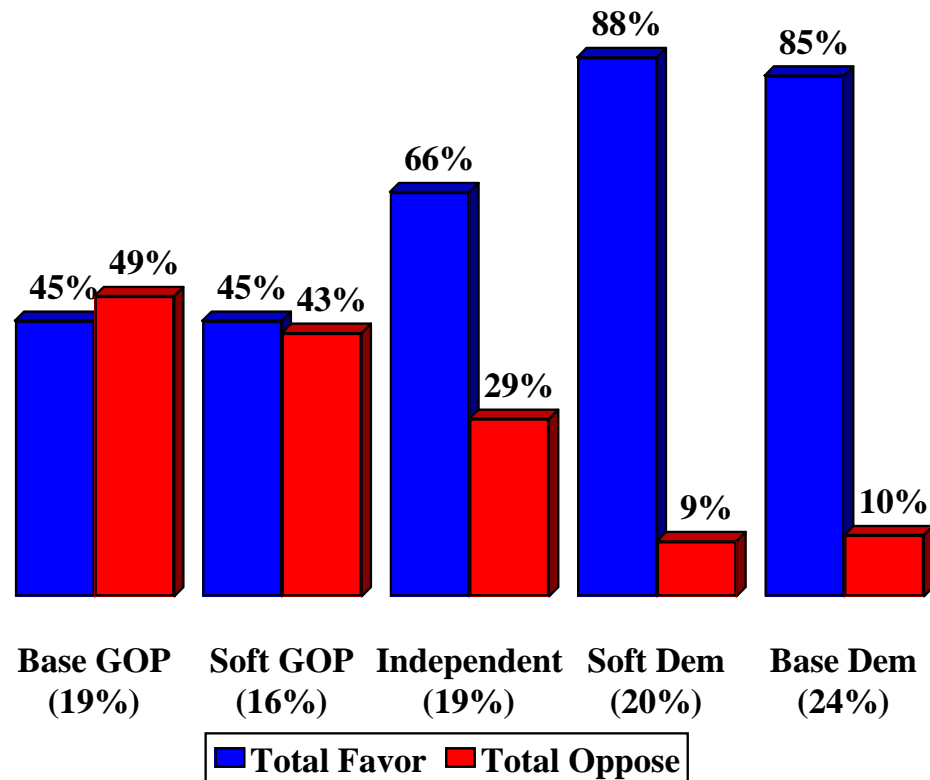
### Overall

**Total Favor: 68%**  
**Total Oppose: 26%\***



\*Denotes Rounding

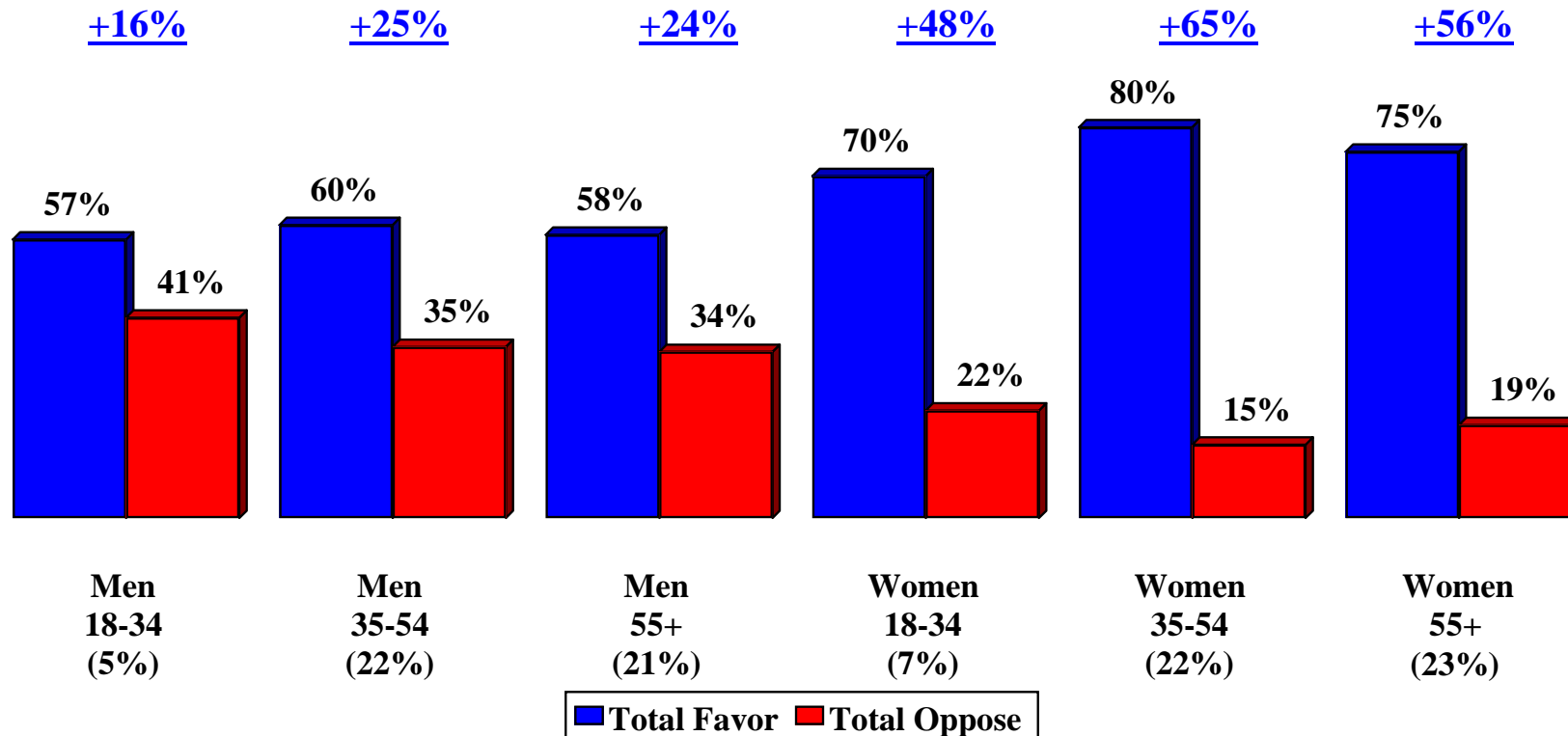
### By Party



# Women, especially ages 35-54, are most likely to favor withdrawing our troops in the next six months.

*“Do you favor or oppose beginning to withdraw United States troops from Iraq during the first half of next year?”*

Overall  
 Men: **59% Favor**  
 Women: **76% Favor**

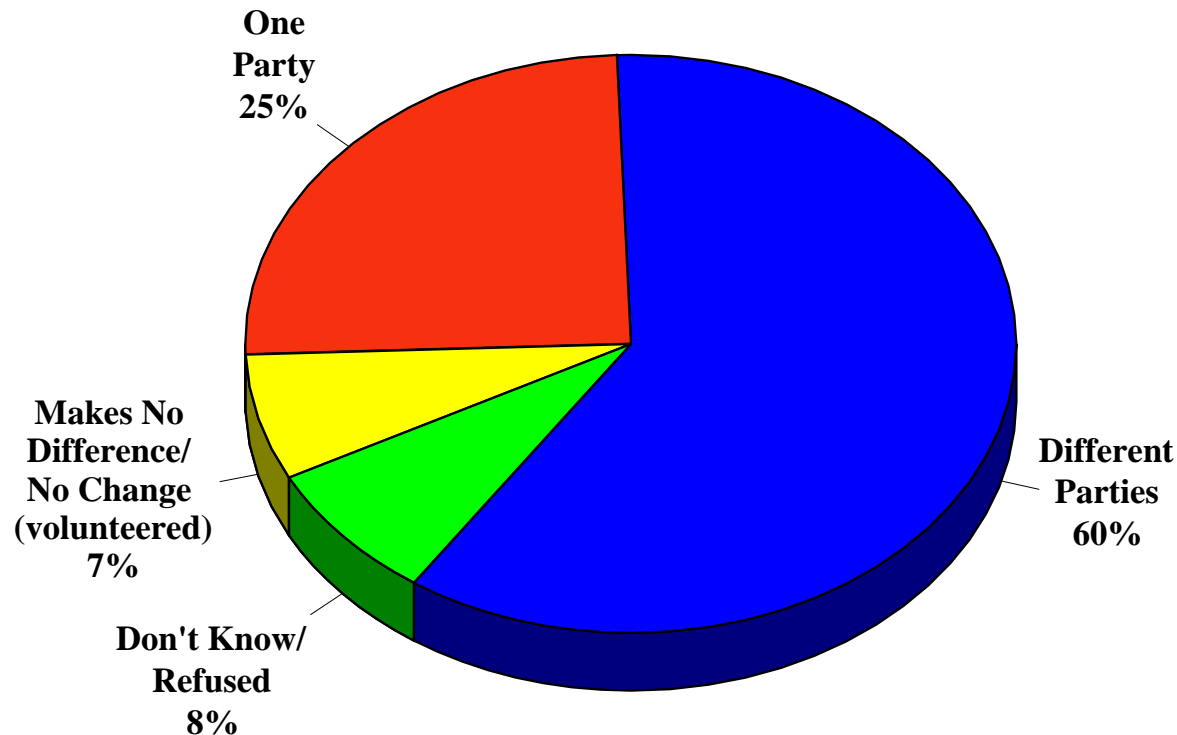


## Six in ten voters prefer a divided federal government.

*“As you may know, starting in January, the Democrats will control the U.S. Congress and President Bush is a Republican. Do you think the government in Washington... is better when different parties control the Congress and the Presidency*

*...or...*

*is better when one party controls the Congress and the Presidency?”*



# Voters want the Democrats to work with Republicans in Congress. Independents agree by more than three to one.

*“Thinking further about this... I’m going to read you two statements, and please tell me which comes closest to your own opinion...”*

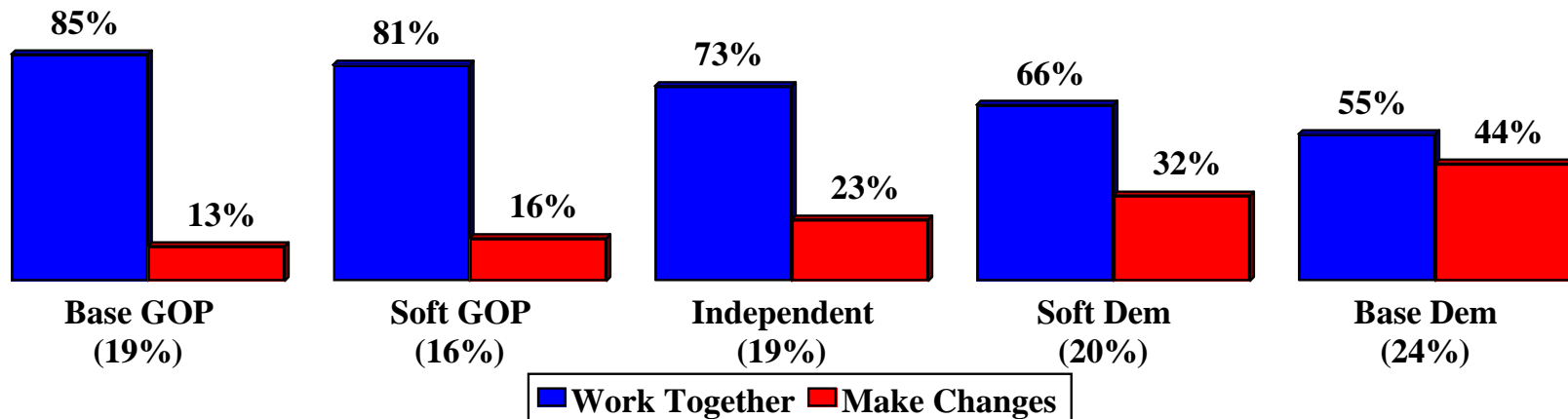
71%

The Democrats who now control Congress should work together in a bipartisan way with Republicans and encourage more cooperation and compromising to get things done.

...or...

27%

The Democrats who now control Congress should make the changes and enact the plans they committed to in the election to move the country in a new direction.





For more information about this presentation, please contact Public Opinion Strategies and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research.

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**GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER RESEARCH**

