



# National Public Radio National Survey

March 2004



# Methodology

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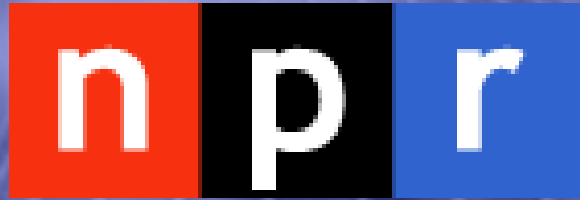
The reported results on public attitudes come from a national survey conducted by Public Opinion Strategies and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research for National Public Radio (NPR) February 26, 28, 29, and March 1, 2004. The firms, together with NPR, developed questions to inform a news segment for Morning Edition. This is our twelfth survey in the NPR series. This is our fourth survey of the 2004 election cycle.

With a view to the upcoming elections, the surveys were conducted with likely voters. All participants were registered voters, who voted or were ineligible to vote in the 2000 presidential election or voted in the 2002 Congressional elections and indicated they were “almost certain” or “certain” to vote in 2004. The sample of potential respondents was generated by random digit dial methodology. The sample size for this survey was 922 registered likely voters with a margin of error of  $\pm 3.23\%$ .

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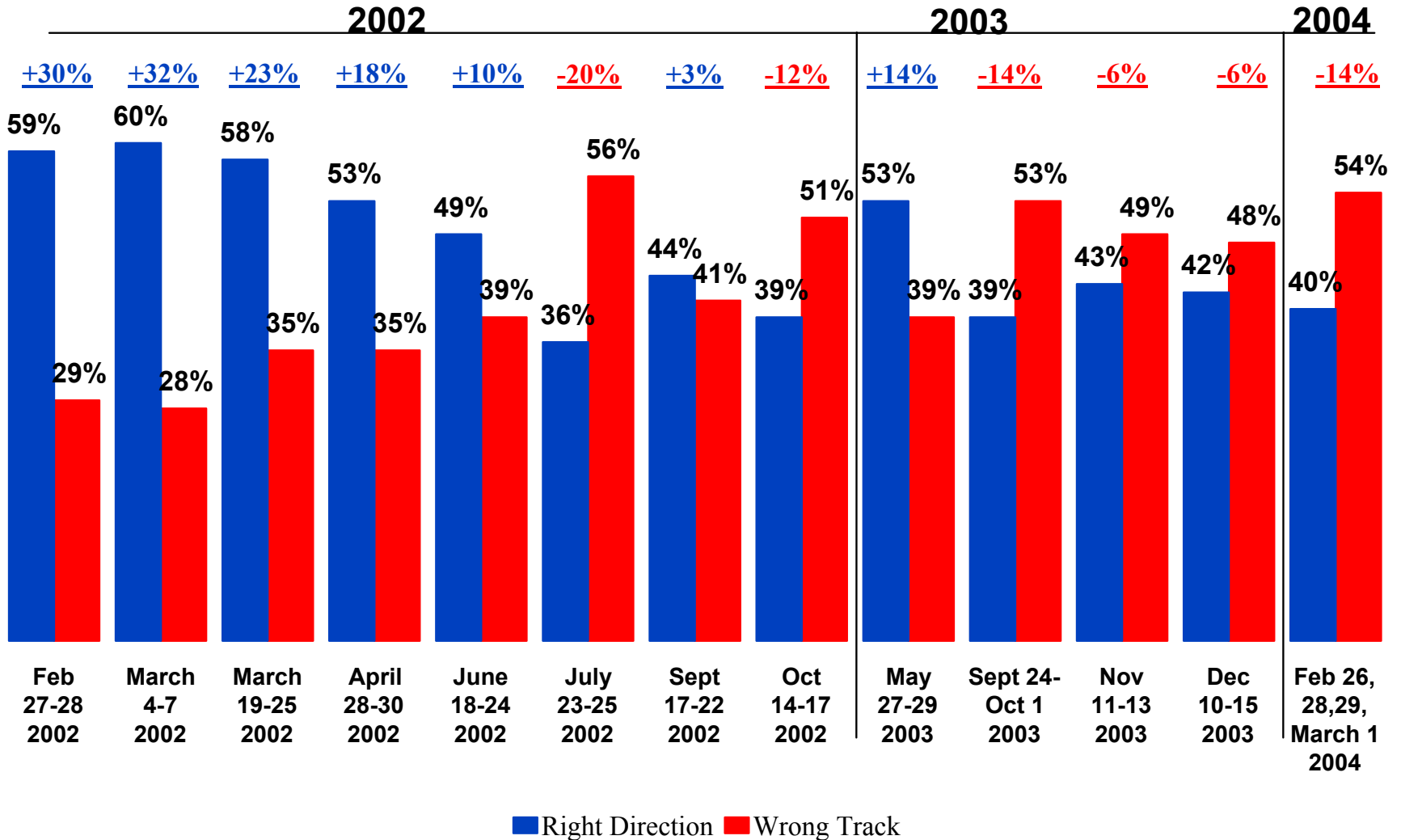
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# Key National Political Data



# A majority of voters now say the country is “off on the wrong track.”

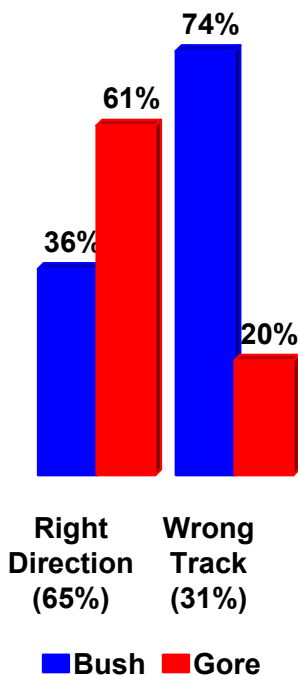


*Generally speaking, would you say that things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they seriously gotten off on the wrong track?*

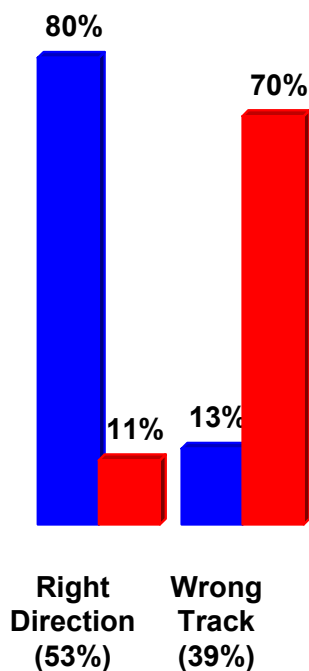
# Right Direction/Wrong Track is becoming a surrogate for the ballot. Look at *today's* ballot by Right Direction/Wrong Track compared to election *exit poll data* from the last presidential election!

## Presidential Ballot by Right Direction/Wrong Track

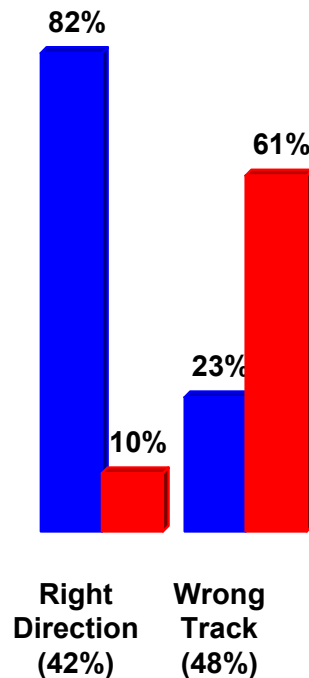
November 2000  
(vs. Gore)  
EXIT POLL DATA



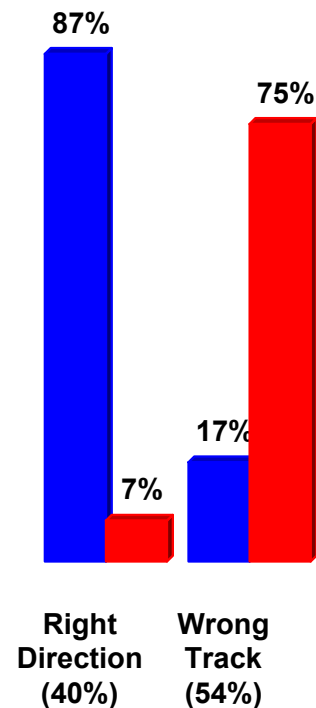
May 2003  
(vs. Generic Democrat)



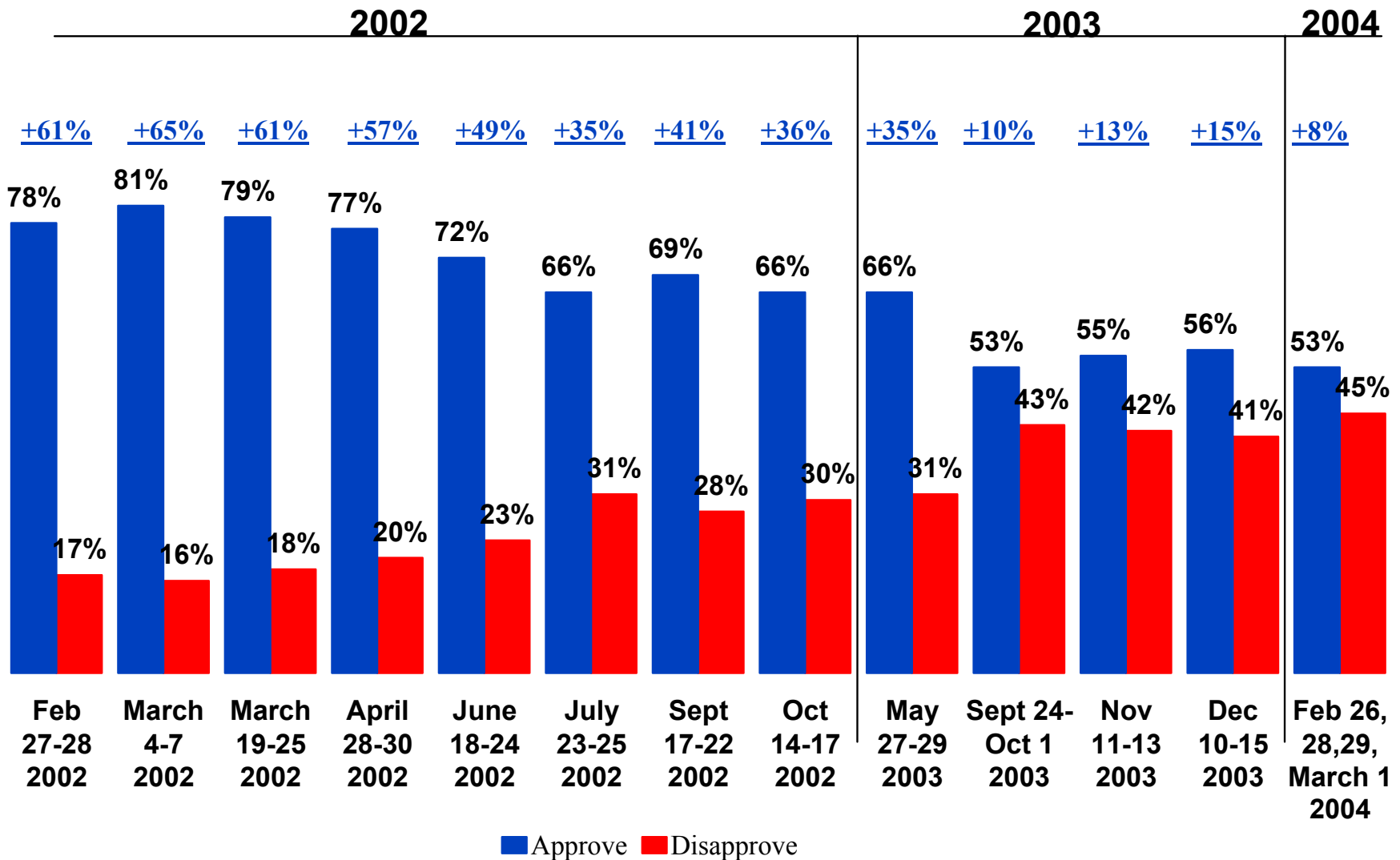
December 2003  
(vs. Generic Democrat)



February 2004  
(vs. Kerry)



# President Bush's net job approval rating has slipped to its lowest level since the attack on 9/11.

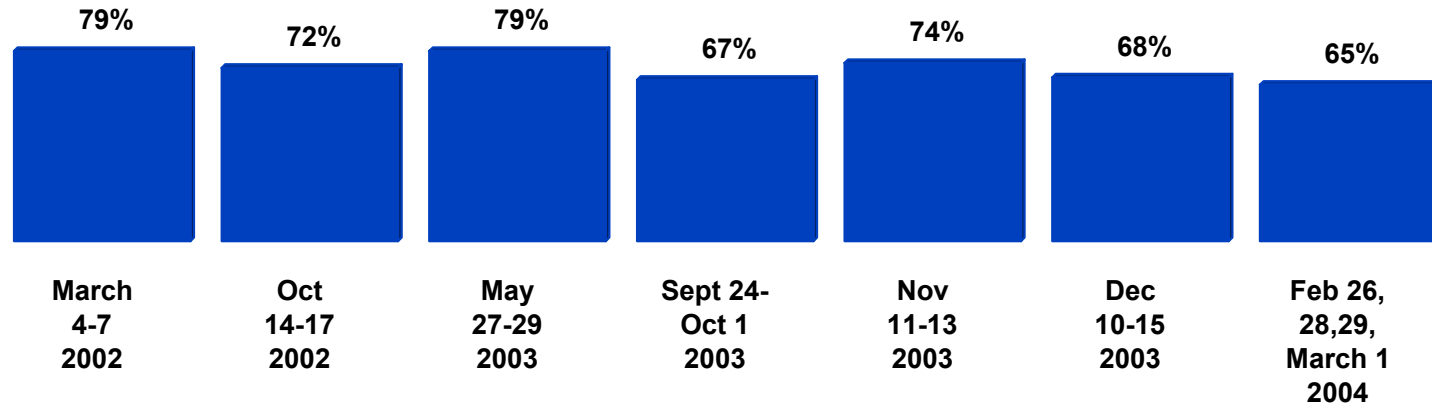


*And, do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as President?*

# There is an unusually sharp difference by political party when looking at *strong* approve and *strong* disapprove numbers.

## Presidential Job Approval by Republican

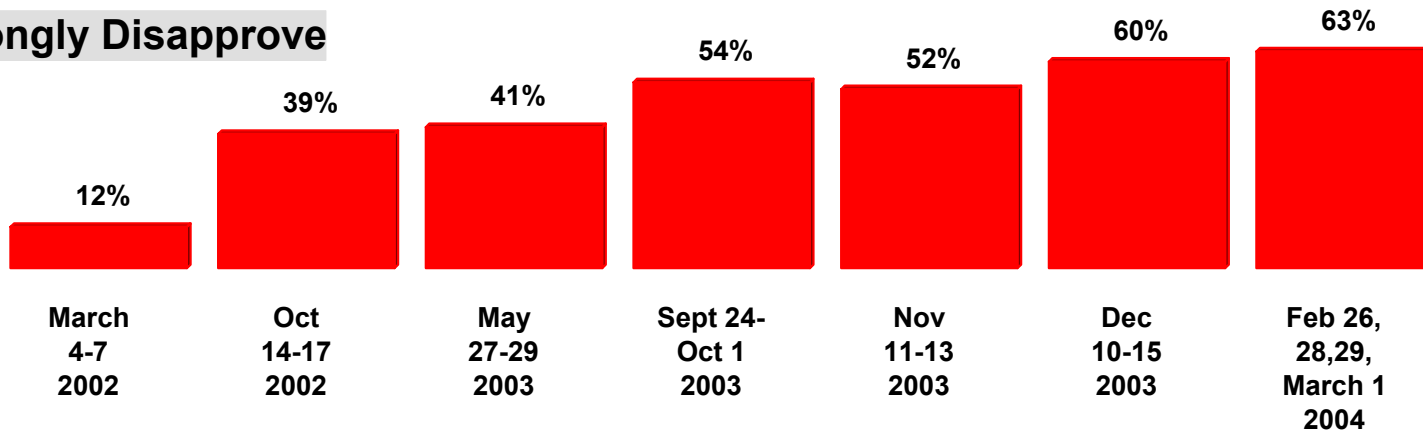
### Strongly Approve



■ GOP Strongly Approve

## Presidential Job Approval by Democrat

### Strongly Disapprove



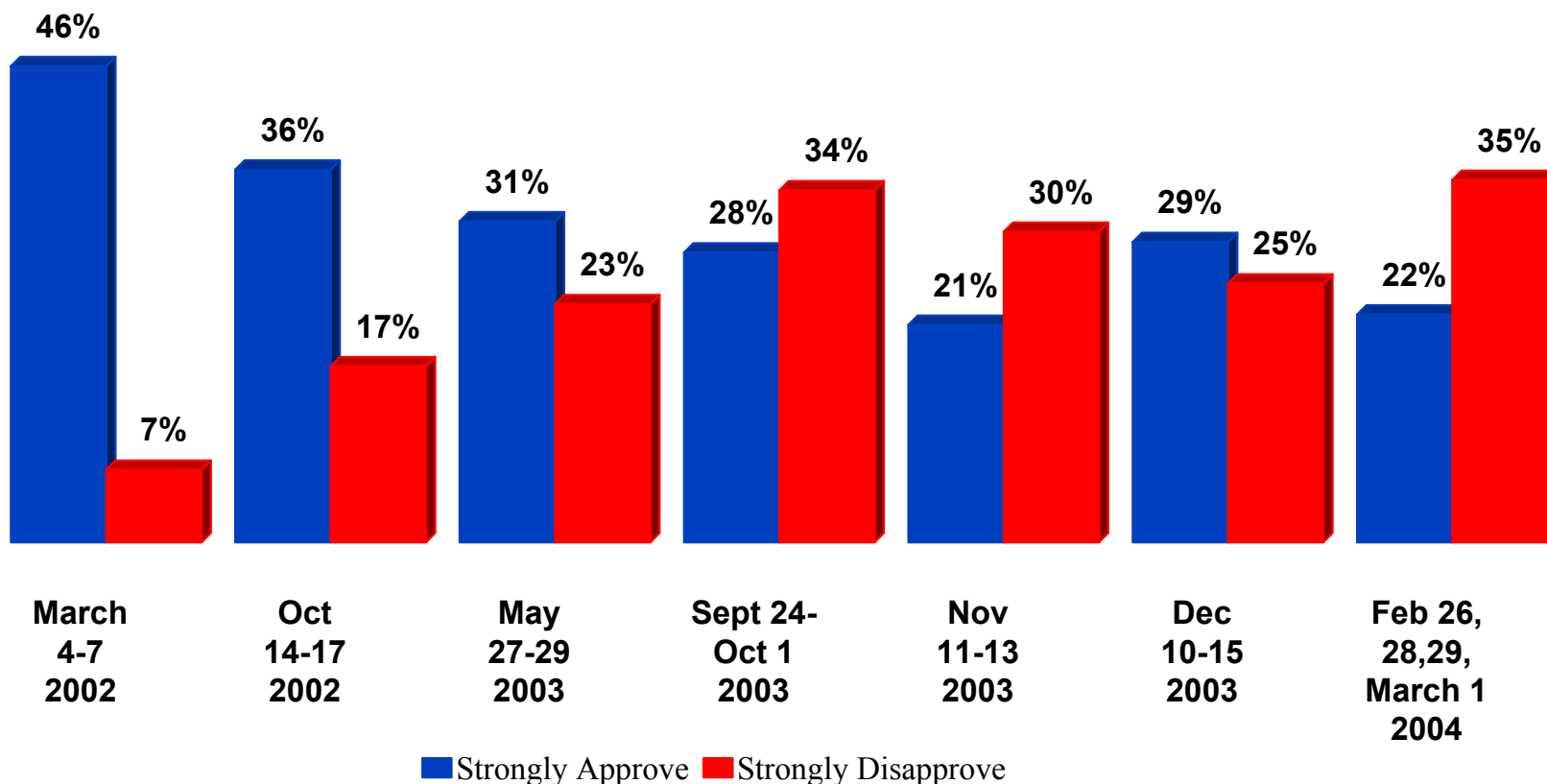
■ DEM Strongly Disapprove

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

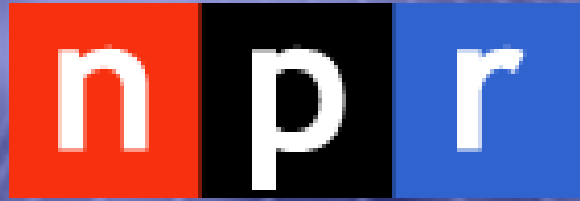


**President Bush has slipped to a net negative job approval rating among Independents (42% approve / 52% disapprove). In terms of intensity, he now also has a net negative rating.**

**Presidential Job Approval by Independent  
Strongly Approve/Strongly Disapprove**



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

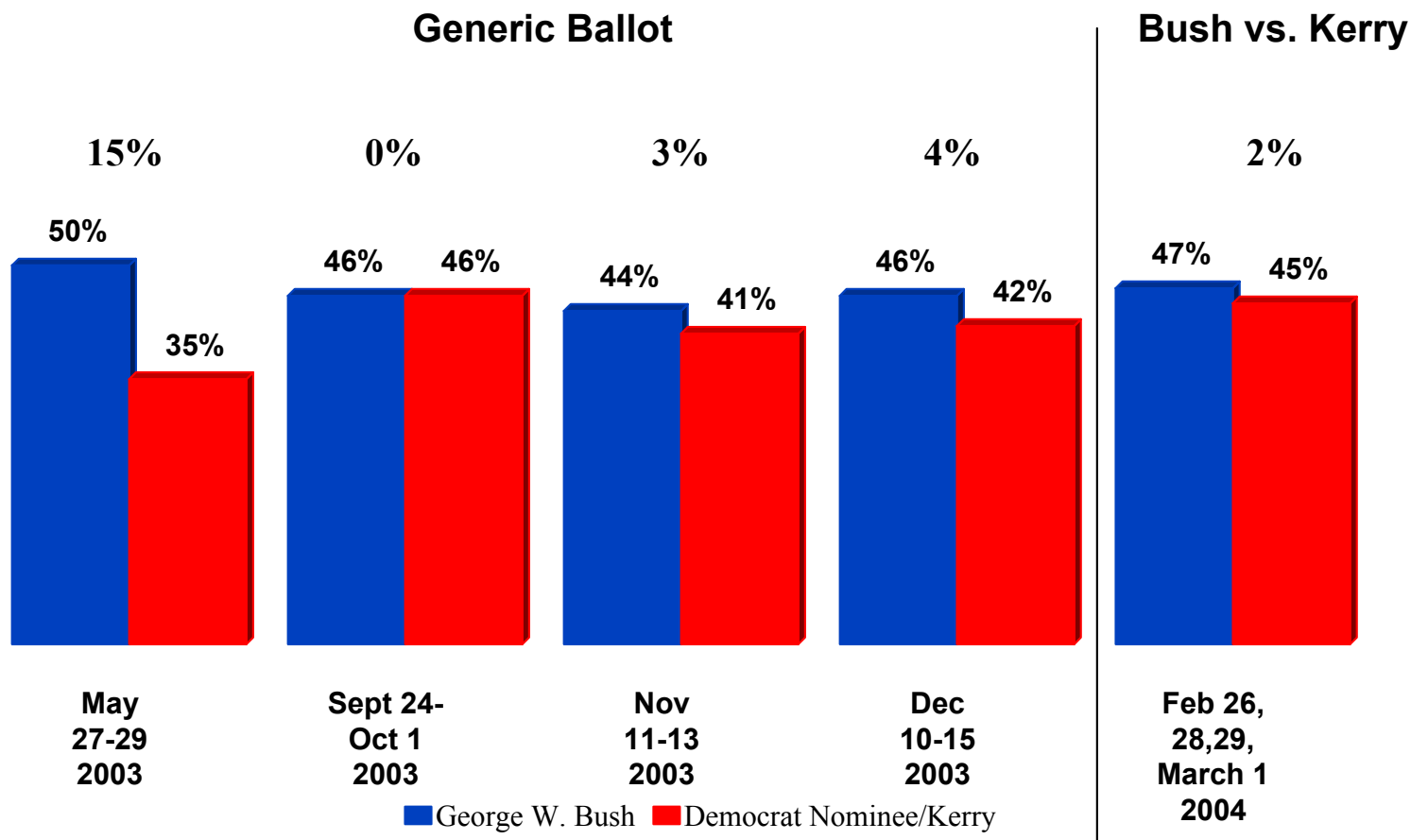


# Looking at the Presidential Ballot and Interest in the Election



# The presidential ballot continues to be within the margin of error.

## Presidential Ballot



*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and (the Democratic nominee for President/Democrat John Kerry), for whom would you vote?*

## Comparing the NPR Ballot Results with Other Recent Surveys

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The NPR data is consistent with multiple recent public polls which all reflect a dramatic polarization by party with Senator Kerry currently leading among Independents.

Averaging the ballot test results among many public polls conducted recently suggests Senator Kerry enjoys a ballot test lead of three to four points over President Bush.

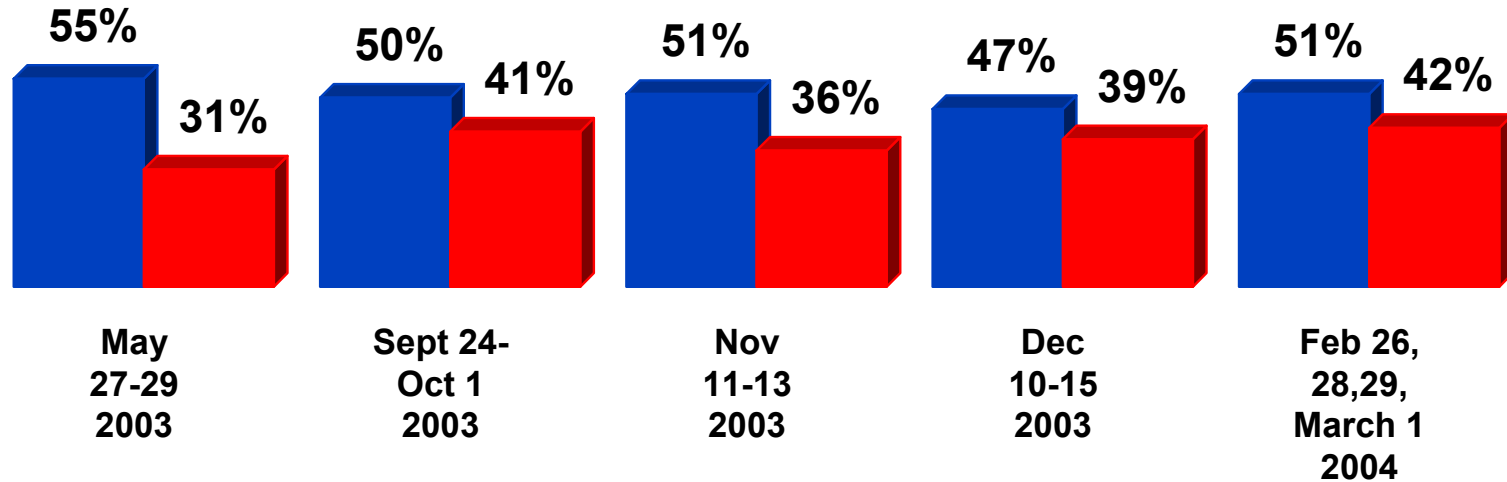
The difference between the NPR poll and other recent public polls: Party identification. On this survey, 40% of respondents said they consider themselves Republican, 41% said they consider themselves Democrats, while 17% were “hard Independents” who refused to lean to either party.

But, other recent public polling reflects a slightly wider party identification advantage for the Democrats of roughly three to five points.

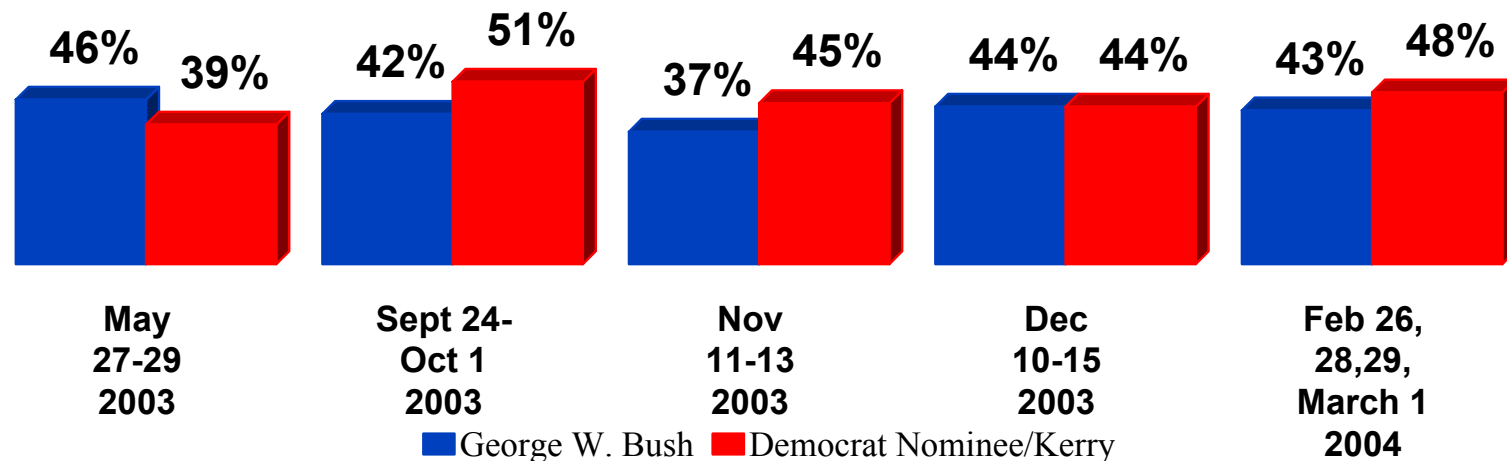
The normal sampling differences between surveys explains why other surveys show the Democratic party identification number higher and Senator Kerry with a ballot edge as compared to these findings on behalf of NPR.

## Tracking Presidential Ballot by Gender

### Men



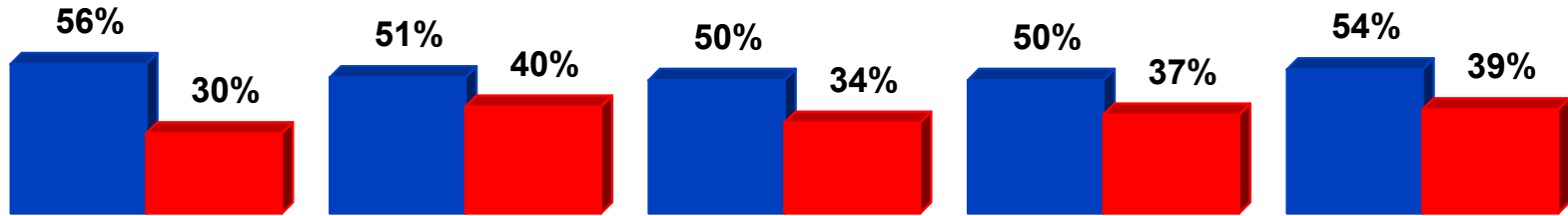
### Women



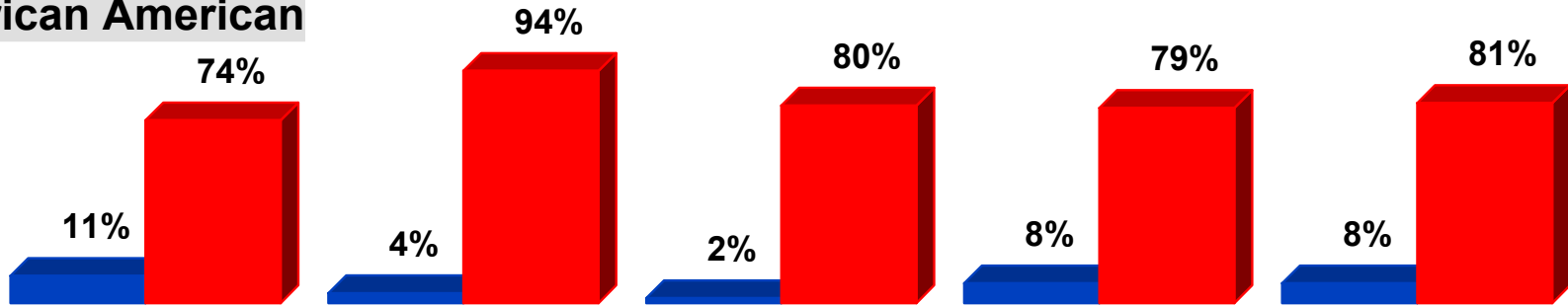
*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and (the Democratic nominee for President/Democrat John Kerry), for whom would you vote?*

# Tracking Presidential Ballot by Ethnicity

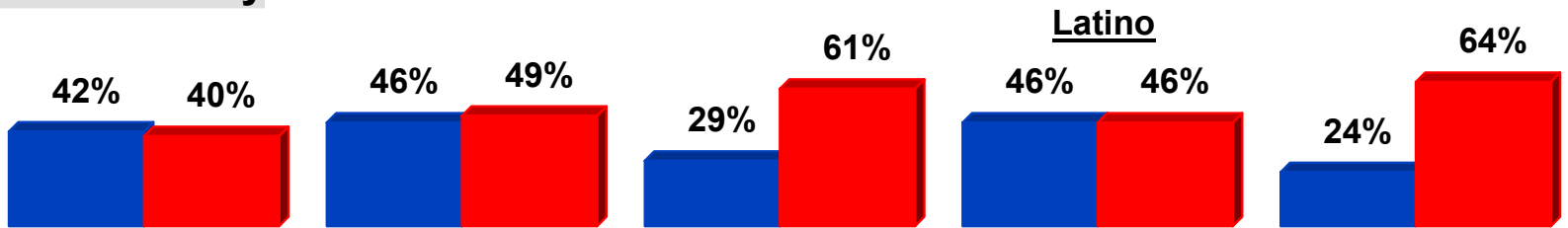
## White



## African American



## Other Ethnicity



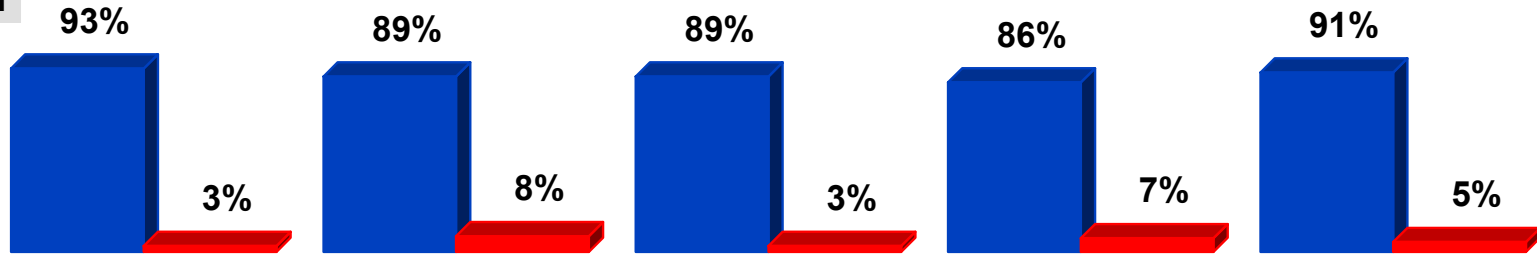
## Latino

■ George W. Bush ■ Democrat Nominee/Kerry

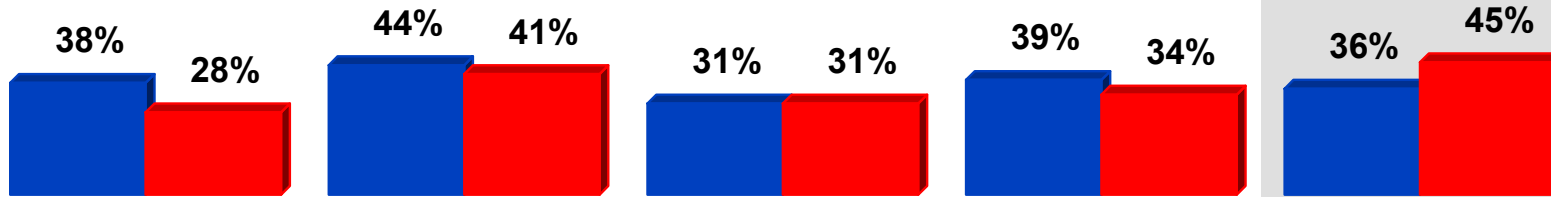
*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and (the Democratic nominee for President/Democrat John Kerry), for whom would you vote?*

# Tracking Presidential Ballot by Party

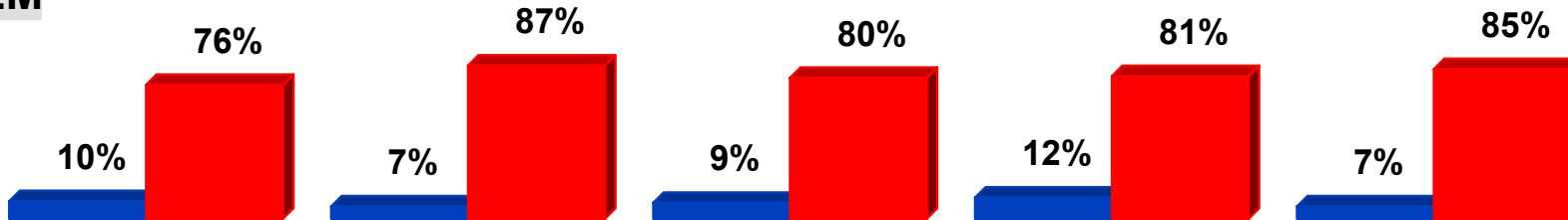
## GOP



## IND



## DEM

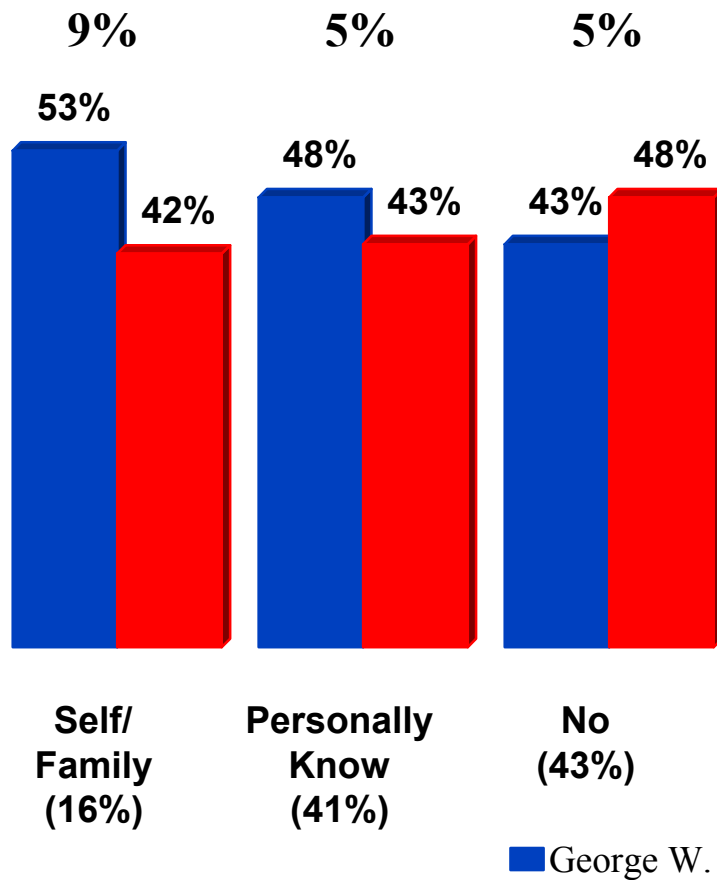


■ George W. Bush ■ Democrat Nominee/Kerry

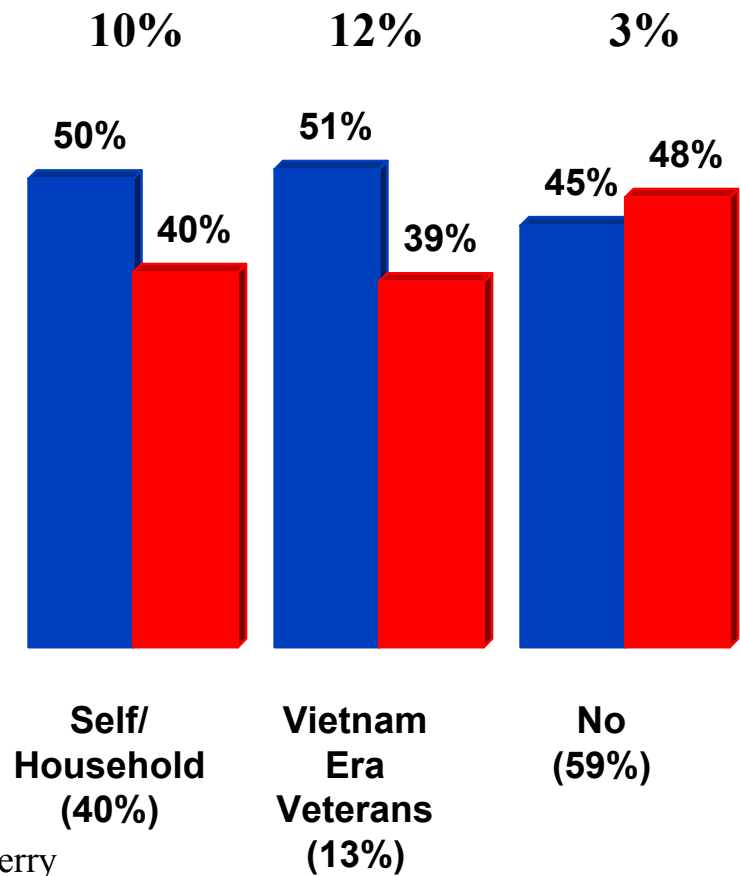
*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and (the Democratic nominee for President/Democrat John Kerry), for whom would you vote?*

**President Bush has stronger support among those respondents most directly connected to knowing someone who served in the Iraq or Afghanistan conflicts and among veterans (including Vietnam Era veterans).**

**Presidential Ballot by Afghan/Iraq Service**



**Presidential Ballot by Military Vets**



*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and Democrat John Kerry, for whom would you vote?*



## Other Key Points about the Ballot

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It's clear President Bush's current margin is based on enjoying a far wider lead in states he carried in 2000 (55% Bush/39% Kerry) than Senator Kerry's overall margin in Gore states (40% Bush/50% Kerry).

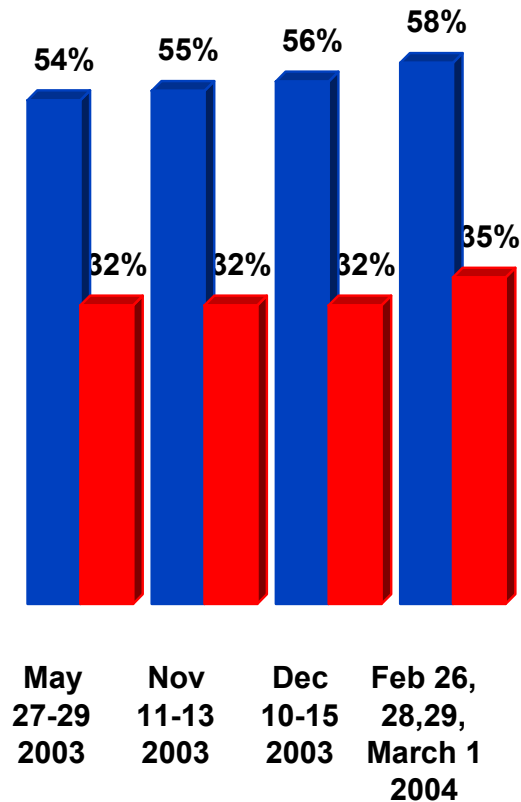
More pointedly, President Bush's margin comes from states he carried by more than five percent in 2000 (58% Bush/35% Kerry), while being only roughly within the margin of error in states he carried narrowly in 2000 (50% Bush/46% Kerry). President Bush is behind in states Gore carried narrowly (42% Bush/49% Kerry), and losing by double-digits in state Gore carried by more than five percent (39% Bush/51% Kerry).

The key battleground in 2004 will be the Great Lakes states. President Bush currently trails in this key region by four percent (44% Bush/48% Kerry).

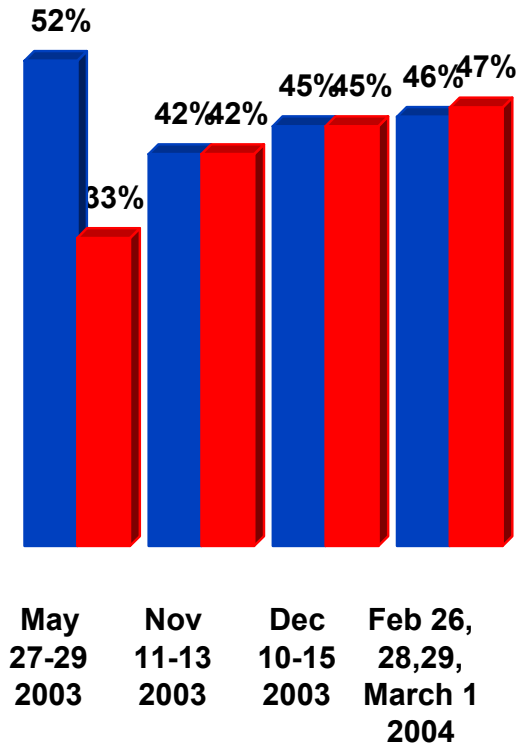
Another important dimension to geography is the type of community in which you live. Here again, President Bush's wide margin among rural voters (59% Bush/35% Kerry) provides the margin for his overall narrow ballot test lead. The race is tied among suburban voters (46% Bush/46% Kerry), while Senator Kerry is ahead among urban voters (38% Bush/52% Kerry).

# Tracking Presidential Ballot by Bush/Gore States

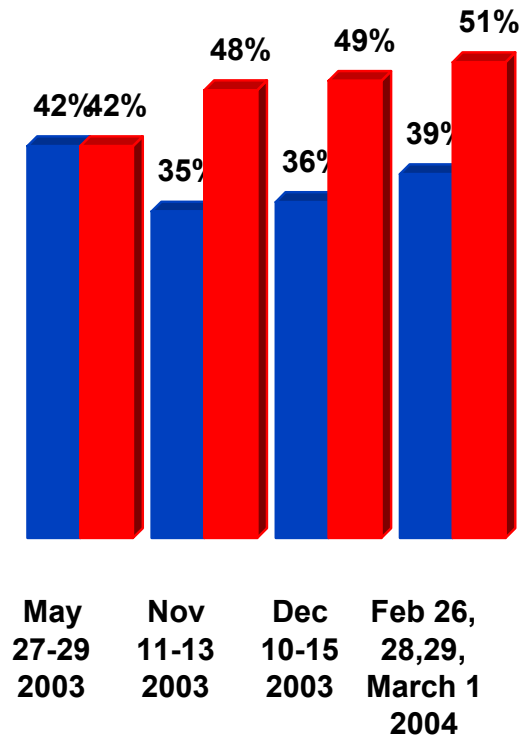
**Bush Won by 5% or More (31%)**



**Swing States (35%)**



**Gore Won by 5% or More (34%)**



■ George W. Bush ■ Democrat Nominee/Kerry

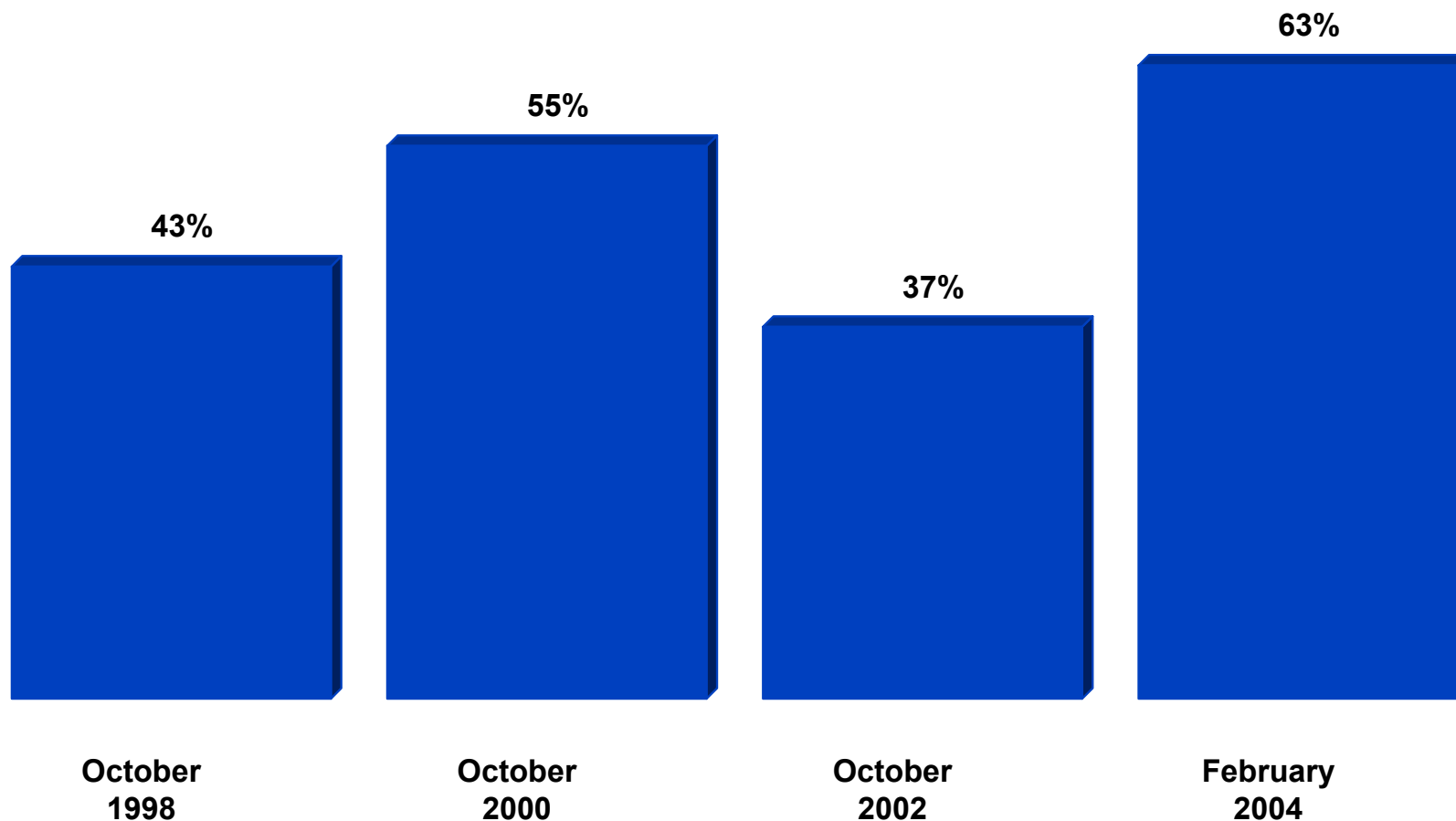
*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and (the Democratic nominee for President/Democrat John Kerry), for whom would you vote?*

# The 2000 election results by state continue to “cut” this data in a significant way.

<i>Key Data</i>	<b>Bush Won Big</b>	<b>Bush Won Little</b>	<b>Gore Won Little</b>	<b>Gore Won Big</b>
<b>Right Direction/ Wrong Track</b>	<b>50%/46%</b>	<b>39%/53%</b>	<b>38%/57%</b>	<b>32%/61%</b>
<b>Bush job approval Approve/ Disapprove</b>	<b>63%/36%</b>	<b>54%/43%</b>	<b>50%/49%</b>	<b>44%/51%</b>
<b>Presidential Ballot Bush/Kerry</b>	<b>58%/35%</b>	<b>50%/46%</b>	<b>42%/49%</b>	<b>39%/51%</b>

**Election interest is at an unusual pitch. Today, 63% of voters describe their interest as being a “10”, which is higher than during October of the past three election years!**

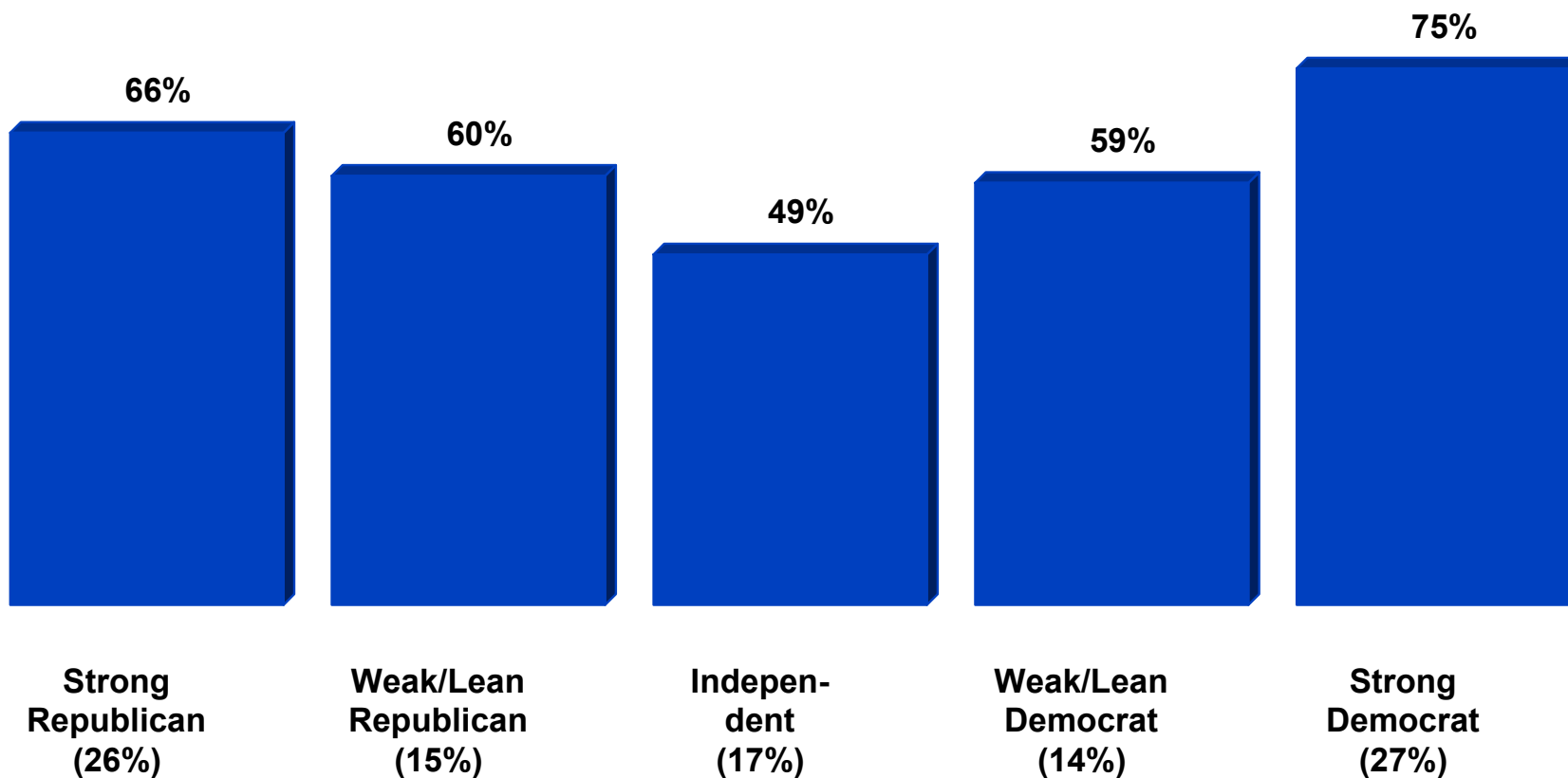
**Election Interest "10"**



*And, on a scale of one to ten, with one meaning NOT AT ALL interested and ten meaning VERY INTERESTED, please tell me how interested you are in this year's elections?*

Although strong partisans of both parties are very engaged, “Strong Democrats” are even more likely to say they are “very interested” in this year’s election than are “Strong Republicans.”

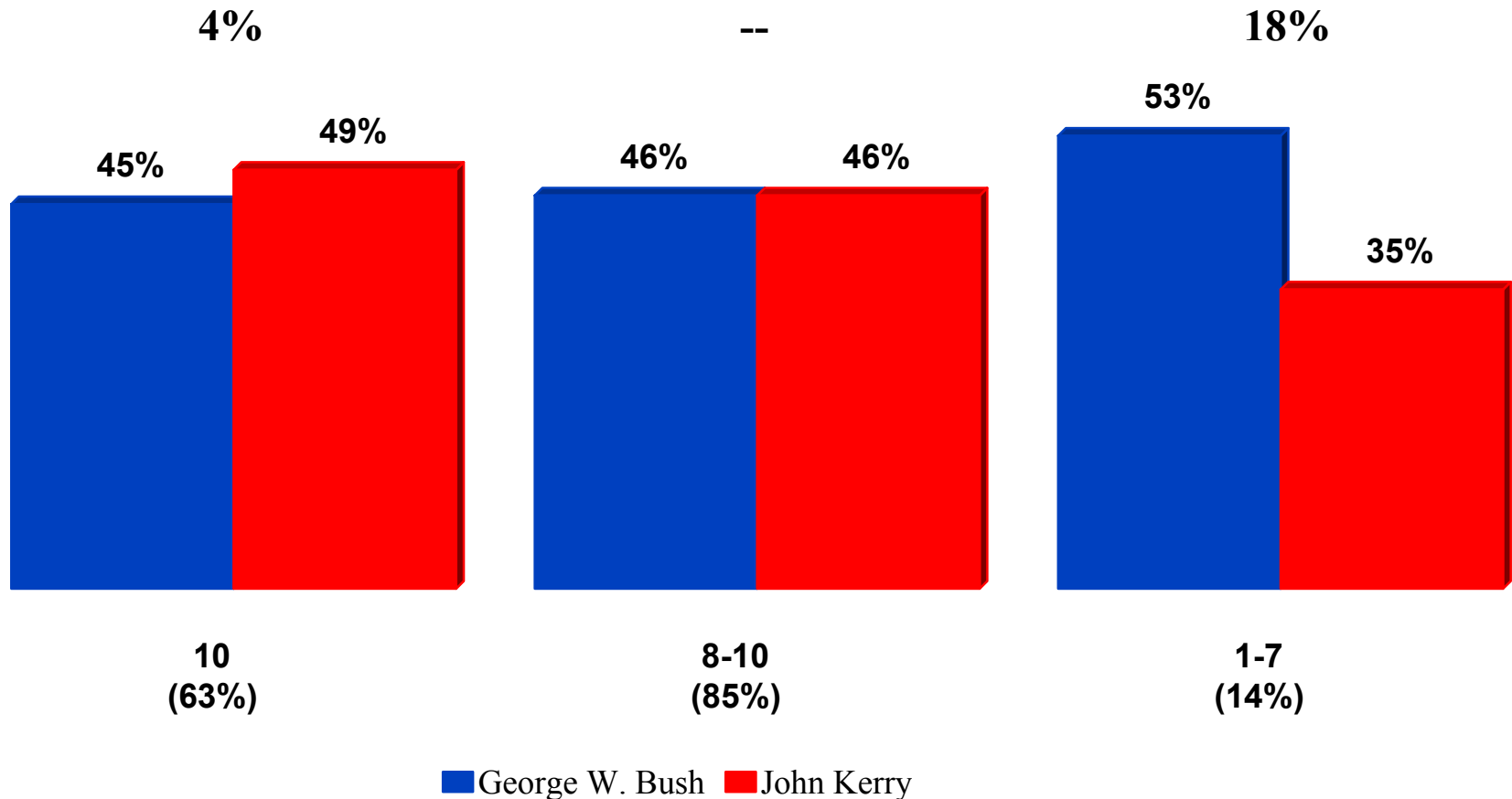
### Election Interest "10"



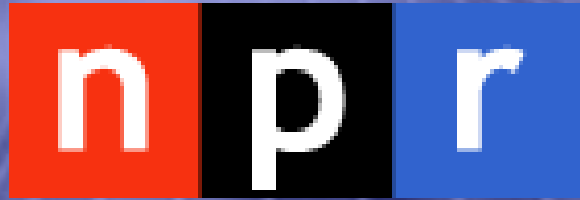
*And, on a scale of one to ten, with one meaning NOT AT ALL interested and ten meaning VERY INTERESTED, please tell me how interested you are in this year's elections?*

Given the current strong interest in the election among “Strong Democrats,” Senator Kerry enjoys a modest edge among “10’s” – while Bush’s overall margin is coming from voters less focused on the election.

### Presidential Ballot by Election Interest



*Now, I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were Republican George W. Bush and Democrat John Kerry, for whom would you vote?*



# Important Trend: Premature Partisan Polarization



Here's the *most* important trend we're seeing:  
Premature Partisan Polarization.

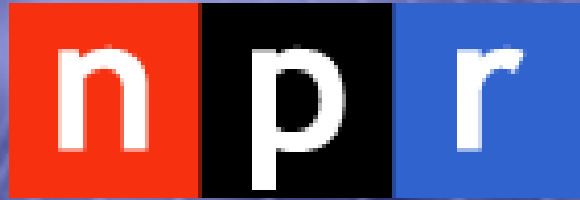
	<b>GOP</b>	<b>DEM</b>
<b>Right Direction/ Wrong Track</b>	<b>73%/21%</b>	<b>10%/85%</b>
<b>Presidential Job Approval</b>	<b>94%/5%</b>	<b>16%/82%</b>
<b>Presidential Ballot</b>	<b>91%/5%</b>	<b>7%/85%</b>



## Beyond the “partisan polarization.”

The numbers among the 17% of respondents who are “hard Independents” are currently problematic for President Bush.

	Independents
<b>Right Direction/ Wrong Track</b>	<b>32%/62%</b>
<b>Presidential Job Approval</b>	<b>42%/52%</b>
<b>Presidential Ballot</b>	<b>36%/45%</b>



# The National Issue Agenda



# The national issue agenda continues to be focused on the issue of “the economy and jobs.”

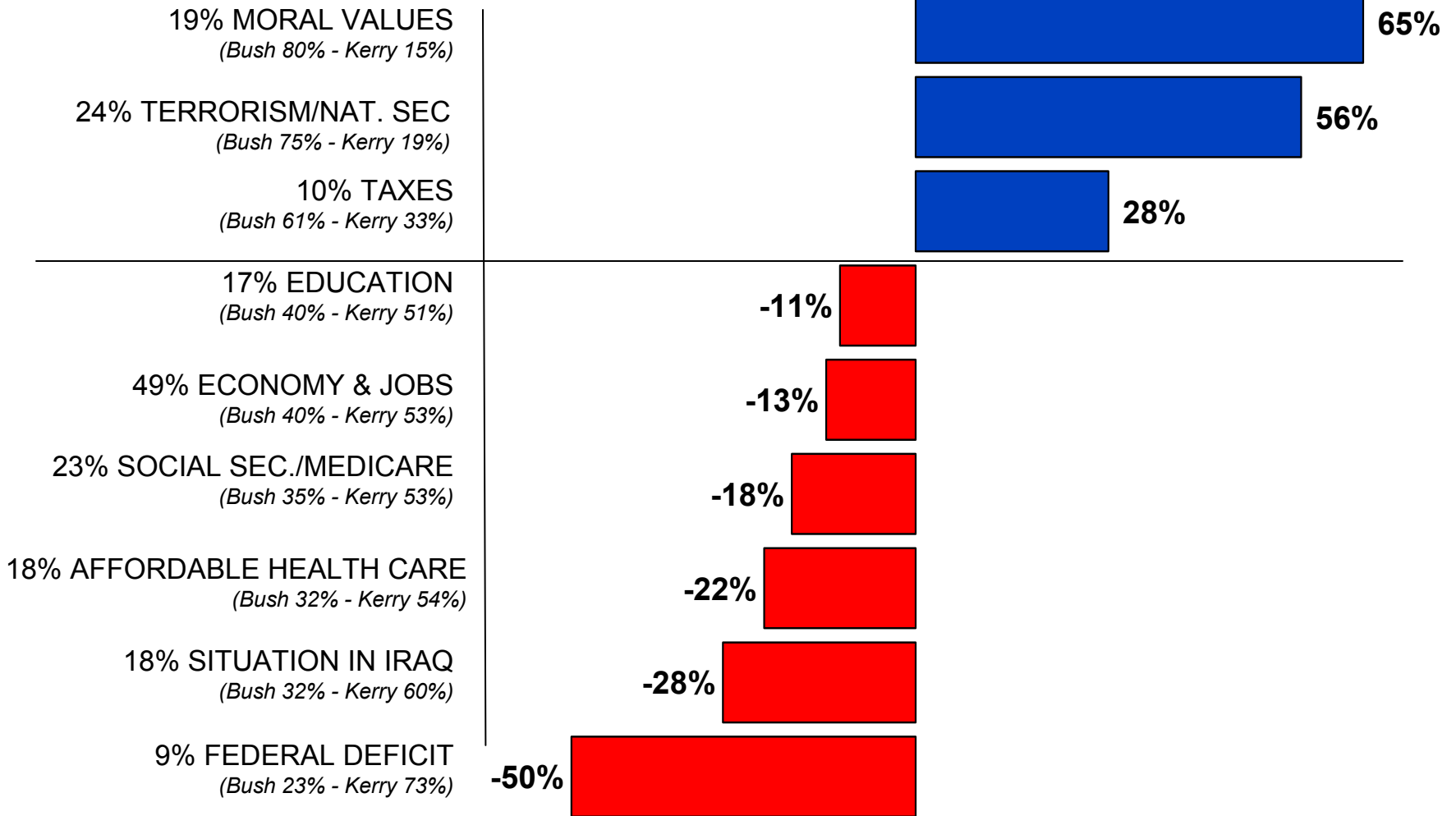
	May 2003	Sept 2003	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Feb 2004	Net Difference (Dec - Feb)
Economy and Jobs	46%	51%	44%	44%	49%	+5%
Terrorism/National Security	26%	28%	24%	28%	24%	-4%
Social Security/Medicare	22%	19%	19%	22%	23%	+1%
Moral Values	17%	17%	17%	15%	19%	+4%
Situation in Iraq	-	14%	28%	17%	18%	+1%
Affordable Health Care	21%	22%	23%	24%	18%	-6%
Education	21%	21%	16%	21%	17%	-4%
Taxes	10%	9%	9%	10%	10%	-
Federal Deficit	-	8%	5%	8%	9%	+1%

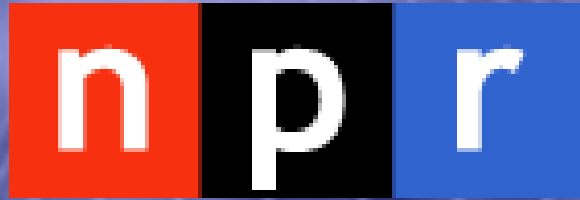
*And, which ONE of the following issue areas would be MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for a candidate for President?  
And which of the following would be the NEXT issue most personally important to you?*

# Presidential ballot by respondent's top TWO most important issues

Kerry Advantage

Bush Advantage





# Testing Candidate Position Statements



# Testing Language on Key Issues

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We tested possible candidate positioning statements on four key issues:

- ✓ Iraq and terrorism;
- ✓ Health care;
- ✓ Jobs and trade; and
- ✓ Gay marriage and civil unions.

Respondents were read possible positioning statements by both George W. Bush and John Kerry. Based on the language presented, we then asked voters for which candidate they would vote.

The positioning statements of John Kerry were presented to all 922 respondents. (However, we inserted the phrase “cut middle class taxes” into John Kerry’s position on the issue of jobs and trade on one half-sample.) We half-sampled the Bush language on three of the four issues. In one half-sample respondents heard only positive positioning statements about Bush’s record. The other Bush half-sample also included negative contrast comments about Senator Kerry’s record.

## Testing Language on Key Issues (continued)

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Senator Kerry's positioning statements all included negative contrast comments about President Bush's record.

It's clear though, especially on the issue of "jobs and trade," President Bush only made progress when including elements sharply critical of Senator Kerry's record. An important finding is President Bush's arguments generally scored higher when they included these negative contrast elements.

This finding has implications for the tone of the debate to come, reflected by Bush's probable campaign rhetoric and upcoming advertising.

Other important lessons are learned as well. Senator Kerry's success in marshalling arguments that neutralize the presumed Bush edge on the issues of "Iraq and terrorism" and gay marriage provide a sense the Democrats can go head to head on these issues.

# On the issue of Iraq and terrorism...

Sample A = 471

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says America is safer today because of our military action in Afghanistan and Iraq. Worldwide, nearly two-thirds of the known al Qaeda leaders along with Saddam Hussein and forty-four of his fifty-four top officials have now all been captured or killed. Saddam can never again hold the world hostage because of the threat he was trying to develop -- and might be willing to use -- weapons of mass destruction. America's resolute action has lead Libya to voluntarily stop their weapons development program, while nuclear weapons inspectors are back in Iran. Bush now says America must continue our policy of engaging terrorists abroad to protect the peace here at home.</p>	<b>47%</b>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says we cannot let up in the war on terrorism and agrees the world is better off without Saddam Hussein. But President Bush's go-it-alone foreign policy has badly damaged our alliances and undermined respect for America in the world. Going it alone in Iraq diverted us from the main battle against the terrorists in Afghanistan and over-extended our military, leaving them exposed in Iraq. And it left American taxpayers with an eighty-seven billion dollar bill to pay alone, with more bills to come, instead of addressing problems at home. Kerry says, we must battle the terrorist but as a country respected and leading strong alliances.</p>	<b>49%</b>
Difference Score	<b>2%</b>



# On the issue of Iraq and terrorism...

Sample B = 451

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says America is safer today because of our military action in Afghanistan and Iraq. Worldwide, nearly two-thirds of the known al Qaeda leaders along with Saddam Hussein have now been captured or killed. <u>Bush says we need a leader who will always put America's security first, but John Kerry voted to cut funding for gathering the intelligence we need to win the war on terrorism, voted against the weapons used so successfully in Iraq, and opposes the death penalty in ALL circumstances even for terrorists.</u> Bush says America must continue our policy of engaging terrorists abroad to <u>keep us safe here at home.</u></p>	<p><b>52%</b></p>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says we cannot let up in the war on terrorism and agrees the world is better off without Saddam Hussein. But President Bush's go-it-alone foreign policy has badly damaged our alliances and undermined respect for America in the world. Going it alone in Iraq diverted us from the main battle against the terrorists in Afghanistan and over-extended our military, leaving them exposed in Iraq. And it left American taxpayers with an eighty-seven billion dollar bill to pay alone, with more bills to come, instead of addressing problems at home. Kerry says, we must battle the terrorist but as a country respected and leading strong alliances.</p>	<p><b>43%</b></p>
<p>Difference Score</p>	<p><b>9%</b></p>

# On the issue of health care...

Sample A = 471

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says our health care system must be fixed and made more affordable by allowing small businesses to band together to negotiate lower insurance rates. Lower rates mean more workers covered. A special tax credit is needed so lower income working families can afford to buy coverage. We should keep good doctors doing good work by eliminating wasteful and frivolous lawsuits. And, Bush passed the first ever plan guaranteeing America's seniors will have coverage for the drugs they need. Bush now says a government-run health care system is the wrong prescription and we must strengthen the system that makes American's health care the best in the world.</p>	<b>46%</b>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says America faces a health care crisis, and President Bush doesn't get it. Health care costs are skyrocketing, over forty million people have no insurance, and new jobs lack good benefits. With big contributions from the insurance and drug companies, President Bush stopped the government from negotiating lower prices and stopped seniors from buying lower cost prescriptions in Canada. His Medicare bill is a giveaway to the drug companies and forces seniors to join HMOs. Kerry proposes allowing the government to use its power to negotiate lower drug prices, making it easier for employers to provide coverage for workers and making sure we cover all children.</p>	<b>48%</b>
Difference Score	<b>2%</b>

# On the issue of health care...

Sample B = 451

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says health care must be more affordable. We can lower costs by small businesses banding together to negotiate lower insurance rates, <u>stop the frivolous lawsuits so doctors pay less for medical malpractice insurance</u> and provide tax credits so working families can afford coverage. <u>Bush's new Medicare plan means seniors will save on drugs. The plan provides a drug savings card for all senior and twelve hundred dollars for lower income seniors to help pay for the drugs they need.</u> Bush says John Kerry's proposal is the <u>wrong prescription, as it gets the government too involved in our health care system which will only end up costing consumers more and limiting their choices.</u></p>	<p><b>44%</b></p>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says America faces a health care crisis, and President Bush doesn't get it. Health care costs are skyrocketing, over forty million people have no insurance, and new jobs lack good benefits. With big contributions from the insurance and drug companies, President Bush stopped the government from negotiating lower prices and stopped seniors from buying lower cost prescriptions in Canada. His Medicare bill is a giveaway to the drug companies and forces seniors to join HMOs. Kerry proposes allowing the government to use its power to negotiate lower drug prices, making it easier for employers to provide coverage for workers and making sure we cover all children.</p>	<p><b>51%</b></p>
<p>Difference Score</p>	<p><b>7%</b></p>

# On the issue of jobs and trade...

Sample A = 471

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says he is promoting free and fair trade to open up new markets for America's small businesses, manufacturers and farmers to create jobs for American workers. Bush says his tax cuts are working, helping create a growing economy, with an unemployment rate that's dropped faster in the last seven months than anytime in the last decade. Bush says more needs to be done and is providing money to train workers for industries that are creating the most new jobs. Bush's tax cuts save every taxpayer one thousand dollars a year and now he warns higher taxes will choke off the economic recovery and the creation of good high paying jobs.</p>	<b>39%</b>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says we need a change in our economic direction. President Bush says the economy is growing, but he hasn't noticed that America has lost three million jobs and costs are skyrocketing for health care, college and housing. The president's economic policy encourages the export of American jobs and he supports laws that allow companies to relocate overseas, avoiding paying US taxes. Kerry says he will enforce current trade agreements to ensure fair trade and stop China's practices that undercut US produced products. Instead of cutting taxes for the wealthiest, we should use the funds to improve education, access to training and college and reduce health care costs.</p>	<b>56%</b>
Difference Score	<b>17%</b>

# On the issue of jobs and trade...

Sample B = 451

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says he <u>supports free and fair trade, but will not back off our desire to open up markets for U.S. products to create jobs here at home.</u> And, Bush is providing money to train workers for industries that are creating the most new jobs. <u>Bush says the way to create new jobs is to allow people to keep more of what they earn.</u> But John Kerry supported raising taxes on Medicare, Social Security benefits, and eliminating a five hundred dollar per child tax credit. Kerry even supported a fifty cent per gallon increase in the gas tax. Bush warns higher taxes will choke off the economic recovery and the creation of good high paying jobs.</p>	<p><b>48%</b></p>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says we need a change in our economic direction. President Bush says the economy is growing, but he hasn't noticed that America has lost three million jobs and costs are skyrocketing for health care, college and housing. The president's economic policy encourages the export of American jobs and he supports laws that allow companies to relocate overseas, avoiding paying US taxes. Kerry says he will enforce current trade agreements to ensure fair trade and stop China's practices that undercut US produced products. Instead of cutting taxes for the wealthiest, we should use the funds to improve education, access to training and college, <u>cut middle class taxes,</u> and reduce health care costs.</p>	<p><b>44%</b></p>
<p>Difference Score</p>	<p><b>4%</b></p>

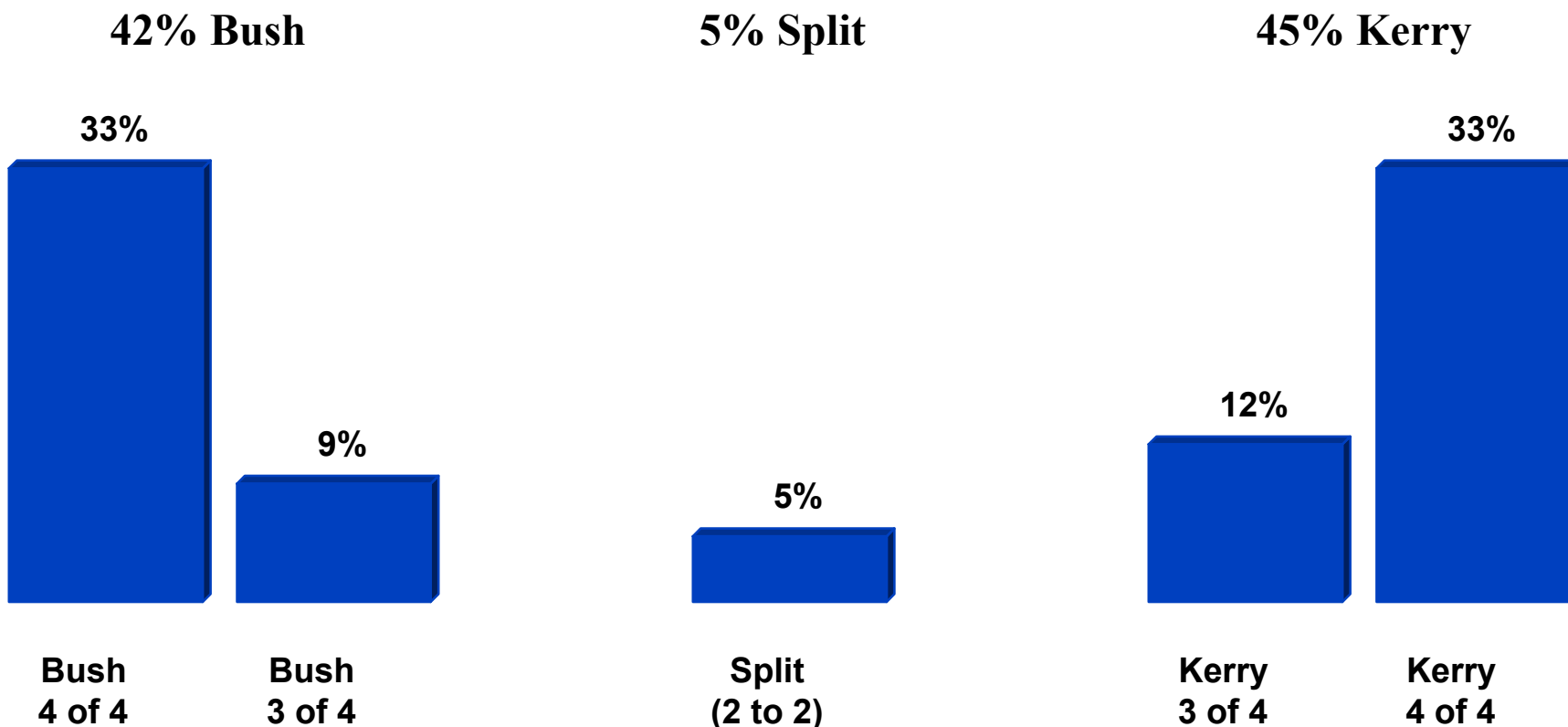
# On the issue of gay marriage and civil unions...

Asked among all

<p><b>George W. Bush</b> says he believes marriage is the union of one man and one woman. We should continue to recognize heterosexual marriage as ensuring, promoting, and supporting a tested social structure for the bearing and raising of children. Bush says we must remember though the same moral tradition that defines marriage also teaches us each individual has dignity and value in God's sight. While Bush says different states SHOULD have the freedom to allow civil unions, because judges in states like Massachusetts insist on legalizing gay marriage, the courts have left no choice and Bush therefore supports an amendment to the Constitution that defends the sanctity of marriage.</p>	<b>46%</b>
<p><b>John Kerry</b> says he is opposed to gay marriage. We should maintain marriage as a union of a man and a woman, but we do not need a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages where the federal government dictates what people must do. Our states have always handled the question of marriage. Kerry says he personally hopes states bar gay marriage but allow civil unions, where partners can at least be allowed the same health care benefits, visitation rights and inheritance. Kerry says, it is sad that the president, apparently for political reasons, is promoting this amendment, instead of addressing the problem of jobs and health care.</p>	<b>46%</b>
Difference Score	<b>0%</b>

**Reflective of a closely divided and locked down electorate, 87% of the respondents picked one of the candidate's positions on 3/4 or 4/4 of the issue statements.**

**Candidate Advantage on Issue Positioning Statements**



The 2000 election results by state continue to “cut” this data in a significant way, as evidenced by the clear divide among states that Bush and Gore respectively won by over 5%, AND by the sharp difference between the “Bush won little” versus “Gore won little” states.

<b><i>Candidate Issue Positioning Statements (Bush%/Kerry%)</i></b>	<b>Bush Won Big</b>	<b>Bush Won Little</b>	<b>Gore Won Little</b>	<b>Gore Won Big</b>
<b>Iraq and Terrorism</b>	<b>59%/36%</b>	<b>51%/46%</b>	<b>44%/51%</b>	<b>43%/53%</b>
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>54%/43%</b>	<b>46%/48%</b>	<b>40%/54%</b>	<b>39%/54%</b>
<b>Jobs and Trade</b>	<b>51%/41%</b>	<b>45%/49%</b>	<b>42%/54%</b>	<b>38%/57%</b>
<b>Gay Marriage and Civil Unions</b>	<b>55%/38%</b>	<b>50%/42%</b>	<b>41%/51%</b>	<b>40%/52%</b>

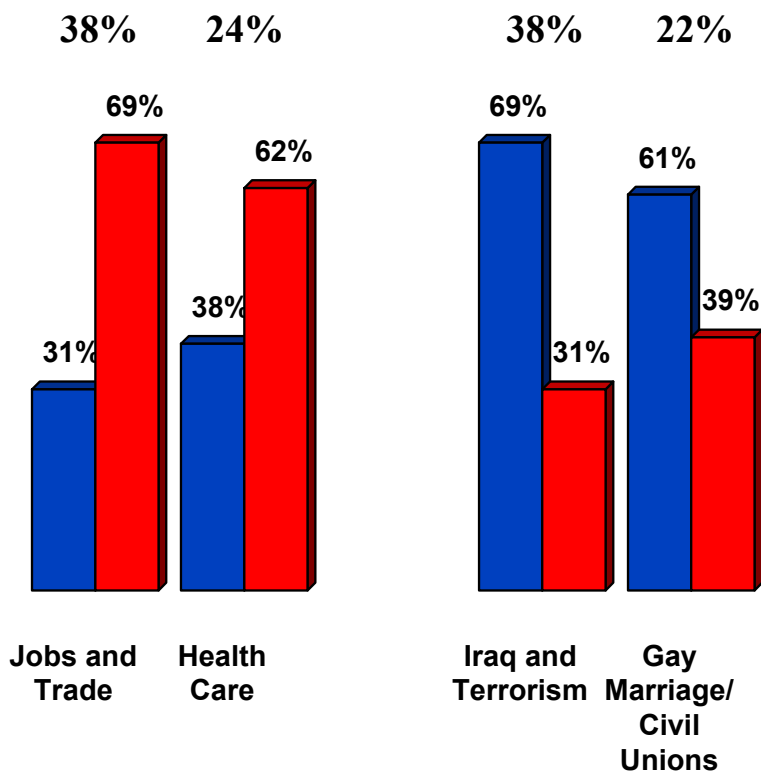


Among the narrow band of “up for grabs” voters, Senator Kerry enjoys an edge on the issues of “Jobs and Trade” and “Health Care,” while President Bush has the edge on “Iraq and Terrorism” and “Gay Marriage/Civil Unions.”

**Among Presidential Ballot Undecideds**

Kerry Edge

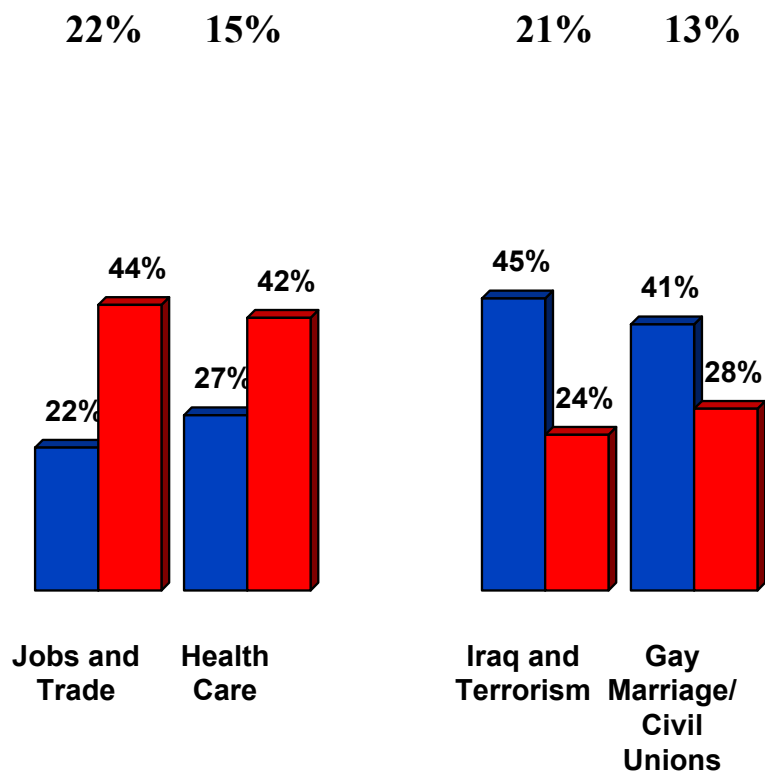
Bush Edge



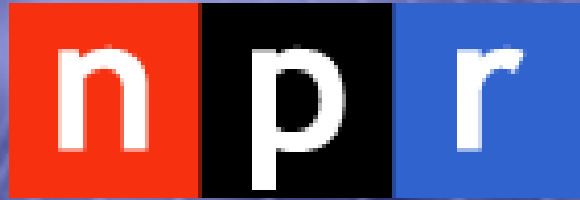
**Among the 5% "Split" on Issue Positioning Statements**

Kerry Edge

Bush Edge



■ Bush ■ Kerry



# Measuring the Movement on the Ballot After the Four Issue Contrast Statements



# There was surprisingly only modest movement on the post-ballot after hearing all four issue contrasts.

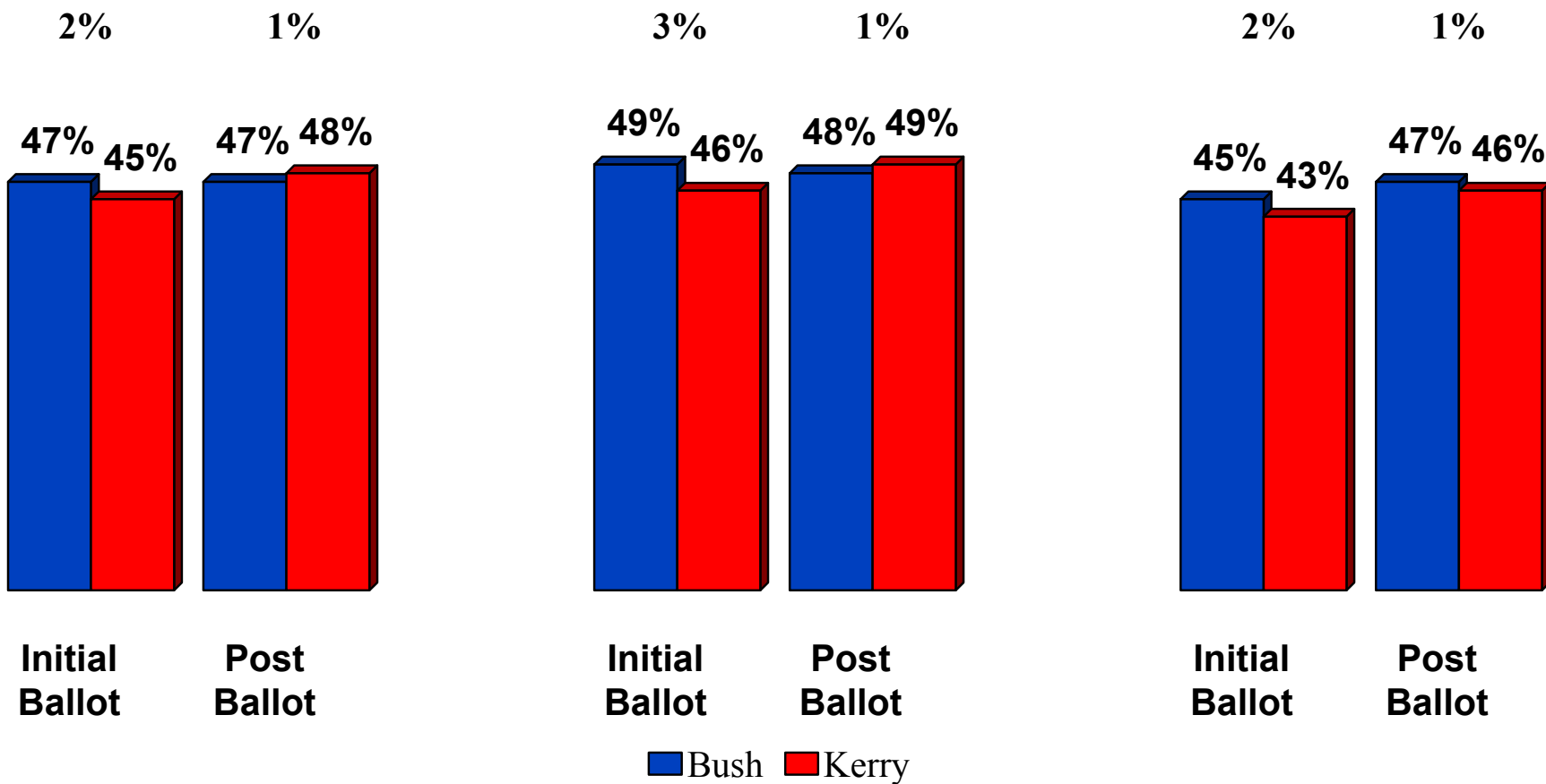
Among All

Sample A = 471

Bush Positive Statements

Sample B = 451

Bush Statements That Included Kerry Negatives



## **Movement of Voters After Hearing Positioning Statements**

On each of the four issues tested, there was very little movement among voters based on all of the information for Bush and Kerry provided to them during the survey.

On the initial set of questions, which used positive language for both candidates, only 1% moved to Bush and 3% moved to Kerry.

When we tested more specifically negative language towards John Kerry, there was still only marginal movement, where 3% moved to Bush and 4% moved to Kerry.

# Verbatim Responses – Move to Bush

**Voters who moved to support George Bush said they did so as a result of hearing Bush's positions on health care, jobs, and terrorism. Fewer people pointed to his position on gay marriage as a reason to now support Bush.**

“Well, after hearing you read some of your proposals, I think I am more for Bush. You talked about a lot of issues. Health issues. You talked about economics and terrorism. We need some kind of way to stop terrorism, and it looks like Bush is headed in the right direction. But, also, in doing so, we have the eighty seven billion dollar debt that we are going to have to pay, and our children are going to have to pay.”

“I think that if Bush will do what he says about medicine and jobs, I would vote for Bush. Those would be the only reasons. If he would create jobs and keep his promises on medication. A lot of jobs are going overseas, and that's not right.”

“I have a confidence that we are headed in the right direction with regard to terrorism, national security, and there is not much else we can do. Jobs going overseas. I have no interest in the gay marriage issue, so it is not important to my vote. It has nothing to do with it.”

“The Medicare and the gay marriages. I didn't like the increase in the tax on gas. And foreign policy, and preserving our jobs over here, rather than sending them out. I think that is about it. I would have to hear the other more about what each one thought about education, etcetera. Get more into it.”

# Verbatim Responses – Move to Kerry

**Voters who moved to support John Kerry liked what they heard about Kerry's positions on the economy and job, and health care. In addition, these movers had negative feelings about Bush's handling of the situation in Iraq. As with those who moved to Bush, only a couple of respondents mentioned gay marriage as a reason for moving to Kerry.**

“It was the issue of health care. The union I work for is talking about striking, and health insurance cost is one of the major reasons. I think we need to have a system much more like Canada's government-run system.

“Well, just the information that you had provided and all the information about health care. Well, I guess also about the gay marriages, because that is a new thing on TV and such. I don't think that should be at the federal level. What someone else does doesn't hurt me in regards to their relationships, and as long as it is healthy.”

“Seems to me Kerry's got it right on the tax cuts and the deficit. I'm not convinced he's got a better plan on Medicare and health care, but I find myself in agreement with him more than Bush, especially on Iraq. If we went into every country that had a dictator and overran it. We ignore the fact that most of the 9-11 terrorists were Saudis.”