

**RT Strategies National Omnibus Poll  
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**And  
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies Poll**

**Conducted November 17-20, 2005  
N = 1,001 adults nationwide, Margin of Error:  $\pm 3.1\%$**

**All numbers represent percentages unless otherwise labeled.**

We're talking to people about political leaders and issues facing the country today. May I please speak with the (male/female) age 18 and older who has had the most recent birthday?

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Yes, registered at this address .....	85	87	83	85
Do not need to register in order to vote (VOLUNTEERED) .....	1	1	2	1
No, not registered at this address .....	14	12	14	14
Not sure/refused .....	*	-	1	*
<b>TOTAL Registered/No need to register .....</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>86</b>

2. Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as President? (IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE, ASK: ) Is that strongly (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE), or only somewhat?

(IF NOT SURE/REFUSED/MIXED, ASK: ) Well, do you lean more toward approve or disapprove when it comes to his performance as President?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Approve .....	41	86	32	10
TOTAL Disapprove.....	52	10	59	85
Strongly approve .....	26	64	14	3
Somewhat approve .....	14	19	16	7
Lean approve .....	2	3	2	1
Neither/Not sure/Mixed (VOLUNTEERED)/Do not lean.....	5	3	7	4
Lean disapprove.....	2	1	2	2
Somewhat disapprove .....	7	5	9	7
Strongly disapprove.....	43	4	48	76
Not sure/refused.....	2	1	2	1

When it comes to the issues of government and politics in the national news over the past few days, (ROTATE):

7. Have you watched television news programs about issues of government and politics all the time, some of the time, or rarely?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL All/Some.....	76	75	77	77
All the time .....	25	24	22	28
Some of the time .....	51	50	55	49
Rarely.....	22	23	22	21
Never (VOLUNTEERED) .....	2	1	1	2
Not sure/refused .....	*	1	*	-

8. Have you discussed issues of government or politics with friends, family or people at work all the time, some of the time, or rarely?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL All/Some.....	74	75	72	77
All the time .....	20	15	22	23
Some of the time .....	54	60	50	53
Rarely.....	23	22	26	20
Never (VOLUNTEERED) .....	3	3	2	3
Not sure/refused .....	-	-	-	-

9. And now that you've had a chance to think about some issues in the news, how closely do you **really** follow national politics and government policies—very closely, somewhat closely, or not much at all?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Very closely .....	36	40	33	35
Somewhat closely.....	53	50	52	56
Not much at all.....	11	10	14	9
Not sure/refused .....	*	-	*	1

10. Thinking about all the problems and challenges this country has to face, do you think this country is making a good effort to solve its problems, or, are you seriously disappointed?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Making a good effort .....	31	63	19	13
Seriously disappointed.....	61	28	72	82
Mixed/Some of both (VOLUNTEERED).....	6	8	7	4
Not sure/refused .....	1	1	1	1

Special 1. Tell me how likely you are to recommend that a friend or neighbor vote for **the Democratic Party** in the next election, using a zero to ten scale, with zero being “not at all likely” and ten being “extremely likely.”

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Very positive recommendation (8 to 10).....	32	3	21	71
Somewhat positive recommendation (6 or 7) .....	8	2	11	10
Weak recommendation (2 to 5).....	22	24	32	9
Not recommend (0 to 1).....	31	65	24	7
<i>Mean</i> .....	<u>4.8</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>8.1</u>
10.....	21	2	11	49
9.....	4	-	3	8
8.....	7	1	7	14
7.....	5	*	8	8
6.....	2	1	3	2
5.....	11	9	14	7
4.....	4	3	7	1
3.....	3	4	5	1
2.....	4	7	6	-
1.....	4	9	3	1
0.....	27	56	21	5
Depends/refused.....	7	6	13	3

Special 2. Tell me how likely you are to recommend that a friend or neighbor vote for **the Republican Party** in the next election, using a zero to ten scale, with zero being “not at all likely” and ten being “extremely likely.”

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Very positive recommendation (8 to 10).....	25	62	11	4
Somewhat positive recommendation (6 or 7) .....	8	15	8	2
Weak recommendation (2 to 5).....	19	11	28	16
Not recommend (0 to 1).....	42	6	42	76
<i>Mean</i> .....	<u>3.9</u>	<u>7.8</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>1.2</u>
10.....	16	41	5	3
9.....	3	7	1	1
8.....	7	15	5	*
7.....	5	10	4	1
6.....	3	5	4	1
5.....	8	8	11	4
4.....	3	2	4	2
3.....	4	1	5	5
2.....	4	1	7	4
1.....	4	2	4	7
0.....	38	5	38	69
Depends/refused.....	7	5	11	2

Now thinking about the Presidential elections coming up in 2008...

13 Have you heard, seen or read anything about Senator John McCain running for President in 2008?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Yes.....	50	56	45	50
No .....	48	42	54	49
Not sure/refused .....	2	2	1	1

14. Some people say..... while other people say... (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

STATEMENT A: McCain would be a good candidate for President because (RANDOMIZE):

...he has demonstrated a great deal of personal integrity

...he has a strong military background

and ...he has independent political views

STATEMENT B: McCain would NOT be a good candidate for President because (RANDOMIZE):

...at age 72, he is too old to run for President

...he is too stubborn in his issue positions

and ...he does not always represent Republican views on the issues

Which of those two statements comes CLOSER to your point of view on John McCain running for President in 2008?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
STATEMENT A .....	48	41	55	47
STATEMENT B .....	35	45	29	32
Mixed/Some of both (VOLUNTEERED).....	4	3	2	6
Not sure/refused .....	13	11	14	15

15. (BASED ONLY ON THOSE CHOOSING POSITIVE DESCRIPTION OF McCain)  
 Of the three characteristics I mentioned, which ONE stands out MOST in your mind?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Integrity.....	37	43	36	33
TOTAL Military.....	24	23	25	22
TOTAL Independent.....	48	42	52	47
He has demonstrated a great deal of personal integrity..	30	35	28	30
He has a strong military background.....	19	20	18	21
He has independent political views.....	41	34	43	44
Integrity AND Military (VOLUNTEERED).....	*	-	1	-
Integrity AND Independent (VOLUNTEERED).....	3	5	2	2
Military AND Independent (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	1	1	1
All of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	3	3	5	1
None of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	2	1	-
Not sure/refused.....	1	1	1	3

16. (BASED ON THOSE CHOOSING A NEGATIVE DESCRIPTION OF McCain)  
 Of the three characteristics I mentioned, which ONE stands out MOST in your mind?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Too old.....	37	24	48	44
TOTAL Stubborn in his views.....	27	21	29	30
TOTAL Not represent Republican views.....	34	49	23	25
At age 72, he is too old.....	35	23	46	39
He is too stubborn in his issue positions.....	24	21	27	27
He does not always represent Republican views on issues.....	32	49	19	23
Old AND Stubborn (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	-	1	2
Old AND Not Republican views (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	1	2	1
Stubborn AND Not Republican views (VOLUNTEERED).....	*	-	2	-
All of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	-	-	1
None of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	4	4	3	5
Not sure/refused.....	2	2	1	2

17. Have you heard, seen or read anything about Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton running for President in 2008?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Yes.....	76	78	71	79
No .....	23	21	28	20
Not sure/refused .....	1	*	*	1

18. Some people say..... while other people say... (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

STATEMENT A: Clinton would be a good candidate for President because (RANDOMIZE):

...she has White House experience in her husband's Administration

...as the first woman President she would bring in new ideas

and ...she is personally a strong and charismatic leader

STATEMENT B: Clinton would NOT be a good candidate for President because (RANDOMIZE):

...she is too tied to all the problems of her husband's Administration

...she is too liberal to win a national election

...she voted for the war in Iraq

Which of those two statements comes CLOSER to your point of view on Hillary Clinton running for President in 2008?

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
STATEMENT A .....	42	18	41	66
STATEMENT B .....	52	76	51	29
Mixed/Some of both (VOLUNTEERED).....	1	1	2	1
Not sure/refused .....	5	5	6	4

19. (BASED ON THOSE CHOOSING A POSITIVE DESCRIPTION OF CLINTON)  
 Of the three characteristics I mentioned, which ONE stands out MOST in your mind?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R*</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Experience .....	35	33	30	37
TOTAL Woman/New ideas.....	26	20	29	27
TOTAL Strong/Charismatic .....	39	23	43	41
She has White House experience in her husband's Administration	31	32	29	32
As the first woman President she would bring in new ideas .....	24	19	26	25
She is personally a strong and charismatic leader .....	35	23	41	35
Experience AND Woman w/ new ideas (VOLUNTEERED) .....	1	2	*	1
Experience AND Personally strong (VOLUNTEERED) .....	2	-	-	4
Woman w/ new ideas AND Personally strong (VOLUNTEERED)....	1	-	1	*
All of them (VOLUNTEERED) .....	1	-	1	1
None of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	4	19	2	2
Not sure/refused .....	1	6	*	*

\*Sample size for Republicans choosing positive description of Clinton is small (N=56)

20. (BASED ON THOSE CHOOSING A NEGATIVE DESCRIPTION OF CLINTON)  
 Of the three characteristics I mentioned, which ONE stands out MOST in your mind?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Too tied to problems of past Clinton Administration .....	36	38	36	31
TOTAL Too liberal .....	48	60	41	32
TOTAL Voted for war in Iraq .....	11	5	13	22
She is too tied to all the problems of her husband's administration ..	32	32	32	30
She is too liberal to win a national election .....	44	55	38	30
She voted in favor of the war in Iraq .....	10	3	13	20
Scandal AND Too liberal (VOLUNTEERED).....	3	4	3	-
Scandal AND Voted for Iraq war (VOLUNTEERED) .....	*	1	-	-
Too liberal AND Voted for Iraq war (VOLUNTEERED).....	-	-	-	-
All of them (VOLUNTEERED) .....	1	1	1	2
None of them (VOLUNTEERED).....	7	2	11	10
Not sure/refused .....	4	2	2	8

21. How often do you personally have the time to vote in the primary elections or participate in political caucuses when parties select their candidates for office—all the time, most of the time, some of the time, or never?

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
All the time .....	39	44	32	42
Most of the time .....	25	24	28	22
Some of the time .....	22	20	21	27
Never .....	13	11	18	9
Not sure/refused .....	*	1	*	-

22. (BASED ON THOSE VOTING IN PRIMARIES AT LEAST SOME OF THE TIME)  
 And do you generally participate in primary elections or party caucuses with the (ROTATE: Republican Party / Democratic Party?)

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
TOTAL Republican primary/It depends.....	49	94	52	4
TOTAL Democratic primary/It depends .....	55	6	61	94
Democratic Party .....	45	3	36	91
Republican Party .....	38	91	27	1
Depends (VOLUNTEERED).....	10	3	25	3
Not sure/refused .....	7	3	12	4

DEMOGRAPHICS

Finally, just a few questions for statistical purposes only:

45. Into which of the following categories does your age fall?

18-29.....	16
30-34.....	9
35-39.....	9
40-44.....	11
45-49.....	10
50-54.....	9
55-59.....	7
60-64.....	7
65 and older .....	22
Refused.....	*
Mean .....	47

46. What is the last year of school you completed?

High School or less .....	32
Some College .....	30
College Graduate .....	37
Grade school or some high school.....	6
Graduated high school .....	26
Some community college or university but did not finish.....	18
Graduated from community college, technical or vocational school or two-year college degree .....	11
Completed four-year college or university degree .....	22
Completed post-graduate degree, such as Master's or PhD or professional school such as law or medicine .....	16
Not sure/refused.....	1

47. How important is religion in your daily life?

Extremely important.....	34
Very important .....	29
Somewhat important.....	22
Not too important .....	8
Not important at all.....	6
Not sure/refused .....	1

48. On the abortion issue, are you generally (ROTATE:) pro-choice or pro-life. Do you feel strongly that way, or only somewhat?

TOTAL Pro-life .....	46
TOTAL Pro-choice.....	48
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Strongly pro-life .....	36
Somewhat pro-life .....	10
Somewhat pro-choice .....	15
Strongly pro-choice.....	32
Not sure/refused .....	6

49. In national politics do you consider yourself (RANDOMIZE:)

1. A Democrat
2. A Republican
3. An Independent
4. Or none of these?

(IF DEMOCRAT/REPUBLICAN ASK) Do you consider yourself strongly (Democratic/Republican) or only moderately (Democratic/Republican).

(IF INDEPENDENT/NONE OF THESE, ASK: Do lean more toward the (ROTATE) Democratic or Republican Party?

Republican .....	31
Independent .....	35
Democrat.....	33
<hr/>	
Republicans with leaners .....	40
Democrats with leaners .....	46
<hr/>	
Strongly Republican.....	18
Moderately Republican .....	13
Independent or Neither/Lean Republican .....	9
Independent or Neither/Do not lean.....	13
Independent or Neither/Lean Democratic .....	13
Moderately Democratic .....	14
Strongly Democratic .....	19
Not sure/Refused.....	1

50. How would you describe your political views (ROTATE ORDER, STARTING FROM BOTTOM EVERY OTHER INTERVIEW)

TOTAL Conservative .....	38
TOTAL Liberal .....	27
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Very conservative .....	14
Somewhat conservative .....	24
Moderate .....	32
Somewhat liberal .....	19
Very liberal .....	8
Not sure/refused .....	2

51. Are you Hispanic? (IF NOT HISPANIC, ASK:) Is your ethnicity white, black, Asian, American Indian or something else?

White .....	78
Black .....	10
Hispanic .....	9
Asian .....	*
American Indian.....	1
Other .....	1
Mixed (VOLUNTEERED) .....	*
Not sure/refused .....	1

52. GENDER

Men .....	48
Women .....	52
Not sure/refused.....	-

53. REGIONS

East (21%)	New England .....	5
	Mid Atlantic States.....	16
Midwest (21%)	Great Lakes.....	16
	Farm Belt .....	5
South (35%)	Deep South .....	16
	Outer South.....	18
West (23%)	Mountain .....	7
	Pacific .....	16

54. Size of Place

Urban.....	30
Suburban .....	50
Rural.....	20