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Interviewing: June 1-4, 2006

Sample: 1,003 adults nationwide

Margin of error: ± 3.1

874 registered voters nationwide

Margin of error: ± 3.2

**RT Strategies National Omnibus Poll
Thomas Riehle and Lance Tarrance, Partners**

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

All numbers represent percentages unless otherwise labeled.

COOK POLITICAL STUDY

We're talking to people about political leaders and issues facing the country today.

- Overall, 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?

		6/1-4/06			4/27-30/06	4/6-9/06	2/23-26/06	1/22-25/06	12/8-11/05	11/17-20/05
	REGISTERED VOTERS	R	I	D	REGISTERED VOTERS					
Total Approve.....	37	77	30	8	36	39	41	46	42	42
Total Disapprove.....	57	17	65	86	60	56	54	51	55	53
Strongly approve.....	23	52	15	3	22	19	24	28	29	27
Somewhat approve.....	13	22	14	4	12	18	16	16	13	14
Lean approve.....	2	3	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
Neither/not sure/mixed (vol)/do not lean.....	5	5	4	4	3	4	5	2	1	4
Lean disapprove.....	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	2	1	2
Somewhat disapprove.....	10	9	11	10	8	11	11	9	10	7
Strongly disapprove.....	46	7	54	75	51	43	42	41	45	44
Not sure.....	1	2	-	1	2	1	-	1	1	1

2. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? **(IF RIGHT/WRONG, ASK:)** Do you feel strongly about that, or only somewhat? **(IF NOT SURE/REFUSED, ASK:)** Do you lean more toward right direction or wrong track?

	6/1-4/06			2/23-26/06	1/22-25/06	12/8 – 11/05	
	<u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u>		
Total Right Direction.....	27	53	26	6	34	37	36
Total Wrong Track.....	61	33	67	81	59	60	61
Strongly right direction	11	24	8	2	17	18	22
Somewhat right direction	15	27	16	4	14	16	12
Lean right direction.....	1	2	1	-	2	3	1
Neither/not sure/mixed (vol)/ do not lean	9	11	6	10	5	2	2
Lean wrong track.....	3	4	2	2	2	2	2
Somewhat wrong track.....	14	12	16	14	16	17	15
Strongly wrong track	45	18	49	65	41	41	44
Not sure	2	2	-	3	2	1	1

3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing? **(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 the performance of Congress?

	<u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Total Approve.....	27	38	24	23
Total Disapprove.....	56	43	65	58
Strongly approve.....	5	7	6	2
Somewhat approve.....	21	29	17	20
Lean approve	2	2	1	1
Neither/not sure/mixed (vol)/do not lean	13	15	10	14
Lean disapprove	2	2	2	2
Somewhat disapprove	22	16	24	26
Strongly disapprove	32	25	39	30
Not sure.....	4	5	2	5

4. Please tell me how interested you are in this November's elections, using a scale from one to ten, on which a ten means that you are very interested in this November's elections, and a one means that you are not at all interested. You may choose any number from one to ten, depending on how interested you are.

Scale 1 to 10, or Not Sure/Refused

	6/1-4/06				4/27-30/06
	REGISTERED VOTERS	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>	REGISTERED VOTERS
10, very interested	41	42	33	48	50
9	7	8	9	5	6
8	16	17	15	18	16
7	12	9	14	13	10
6	4	6	6	2	3
5	9	8	11	8	7
4	2	3	1	1	1
3	2	2	3	1	1
2	1	1	2	1	1
1, not at all interested	3	3	3	2	3
Not sure.....	1	-	2	1	1
Total Highly Interested (9 and 10)	49	51	42	53	56
<i>Mean</i>	7.9	8	7.6	8.3	8.3

5. Now, thinking about the election for U.S. Congress in November, regardless of how you might plan to vote in your own district, which party would you like to see in control of Congress after the congressional elections in November— **(ROTATE:)** the Democrats or the Republicans? **(IF OTHER/NOT SURE/REFUSED, ASK:)** Well, which way do you lean, more toward **(ROTATE:)** the Democrats or the Republicans?

	6/1-4/2006				4/27-30/06	4/6-9/06	2/23-26/06	1/22-25/06	12/8-11/05
	REGISTERED VOTERS	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>	REGISTERED VOTERS				
Democrats	48	8	46	89	49	47	47	50	49
Lean Democrat.....	2	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
Republicans	35	82	25	2	37	37	39	41	39
Lean Republican	3	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other (VOL) (DO NOT LEAN)	6	3	11	3	5	7	7	9	12
Not sure/refused (DO NOT LEAN)	7	3	11	5	8	9	7	-	-

Now I'd like you to think about the Presidential election coming up in 2008, but first, looking back, do you recall how you voted in the 2004 election?

6. In the election for President in 2004, did you vote for (**ROTATE:**) the Democratic candidate John Kerry, or the Republican candidate George W. Bush Or did you vote for another candidate, or did you not happen to vote in the 2004 Presidential election?

	REGISTERED VOTERS	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>D</u>
Bush.....	45	91	38	8
Kerry	45	5	44	85
Other candidate.....	2	-	5	1
Did not vote in 2004	5	1	10	3
Not sure/refused.....	3	2	3	3

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY ARE DEMOCRATS OR DEMOCRATIC LEANERS.)

7. I am going to read a list of people who might seek the Democratic nomination for President in 2008, and I will read the list twice. I would like you to tell me who would be your **FIRST CHOICE** for the nomination? And who would be your **SECOND CHOICE**? (**RANDOMIZE:**)

REGISTERED VOTERS: DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS			
	6/1-4/06	12/8-11/05	
	1ST CHOICE	COMBINED 1ST & 2ND CHOICE	1ST CHOICE
Hillary Rodham Clinton	31	49	32
John Kerry	14	30	16
John Edwards.....	11	25	15
Joe Biden.....	4	9	7
Bill Richardson.....	2	3	5
Russ Feingold.....	2	4	5
Mark Warner.....	3	5	4
Wesley Clark	3	7	2
Evan Bayh	2	3	3
Tom Vilsack	-	2	-
Chris Dodd.....	1	2	NA
Al Gore.....	18	33	NA
Not sure	10	20	10

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY ARE DEMOCRATS OR DEMOCRATIC LEANERS.)

7a. IF GORE DOES NOT RUN?

REGISTERED VOTERS	
RECALCULATED BASED ON 2 ND CHOICE OF GORE VOTERS: IF GORE DOES NOT RUN	
<u>6/1-4/06</u>	
Hillary Rodham Clinton	37
John Kerry	20
John Edwards	12
Joe Biden	5
Bill Richardson	2
Russ Feingold	3
Mark Warner	3
Wesley Clark	3
Evan Bayh	2
Tom Vilsack	-
Chris Dodd	1
Al Gore	NA
Not sure	16

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY ARE REPUBLICAN OR REPUBLICAN LEANERS.)

8. I am going to read a list of people who might seek the Republican nomination for President in 2008, and I will read the list twice. I would like you to tell me who would be your FIRST CHOICE for the nomination? And who would be your SECOND CHOICE? (**RANDOMIZE:**)

	REGISTERED VOTERS: <i>REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS</i>		
	<u>6/1-4/06</u>	<u>12/8-11/05</u>	
	<u>1ST CHOICE</u>	<u>COMBINED 1ST & 2ND CHOICE</u>	<u>1ST CHOICE</u>
John McCain	29	43	25
Rudy Giuliani	24	47	24
Newt Gingrich	6	15	12
Bill Frist	5	11	5
Mitt Romney	8	13	3
George Allen	3	9	3
George Pataki	4	7	3
Mike Huckabee	-	-	2
Chuck Hagel	1	1	2
Sam Brownback	1	2	1
Tom Tancredo	3	3	NA
Not sure	15	33	14

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY ARE REPUBLICAN OR REPUBLICAN LEANERS.)
 8a. IF GIULIANI DOES NOT RUN?

REGISTERED VOTERS		
RECALCULATED BASED ON 2ND CHOICE OF GIULIANI VOTERS: IF GIULIANI DOES NOT RUN		
	<u>6/1-4/06</u>	<u>12/8-11/05</u>
John McCain	37	29
Rudy Giuliani.....	NA	NA
Newt Gingrich.....	9	14
Bill Frist.....	5	8
Mitt Romney	10	5
George Allen	5	5
George Pataki	6	7
Mike Huckabee	-	2
Chuck Hagel.....	1	2
Sam Brownback.....	2	1
Tom Tancredo.....	3	NA
Not sure.....	21	19

9. And now looking ahead to the 2008 election for President, if that election were today and the candidates were — **(ROTATE:)** Hillary Clinton, the Democrat or John McCain, the Republican—for whom would you vote?

	<u>6/1-4/06</u>			4/6-9/06	2/23-26/06
	REGISTERED VOTERS	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	REGISTERED VOTERS	
Hillary Clinton, the Democrat.....	40	6	34	37	36
John McCain, the Republican	47	86	45	46	48
Other	6	5	9	7	5
Not sure/refused	7	3	12	9	11

REGISTERED VOTERS/ PARTY AFFILIATION

D1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

	ALL ADULTS	R	I	D
Yes, registered at this address.....	87	89	86	90
(VOL) Do not need to register in order to vote	-	-	1	-
No, not registered at this address	13	11	13	10
Not sure/ refused	-	-	-	-
Total Registered/ No need to register.....	87	89	87	90

D2. In national politics do you consider yourself (**RANDOMIZE:**) a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, 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?

	REGISTERED VOTERS	ALL ADULTS
Republican	30	29
Independent	34	34
Democrat	32	31
<i>Republicans with leaners</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Democrats with leaners.....</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>39</i>
Strongly Republican	18	18
Moderately Republican.....	12	12
Independent/neither/lean Republican	7	6
Independent/neither/do not lean	20	20
Independent/neither/lean Democrat	7	7
Moderately Democrat	14	13
Strongly Democrat.....	19	18
Refused/not sure	4	5

DEMOGRAPHICS

NOTE: Results for demographic questions represent all registered voters unless otherwise indicated.

Finally, just a few questions for statistical purposes only:

D4. Into which of the following categories does your age fall?

18-29.....	15
30-34.....	10
35-39.....	9
40-44.....	11
45-49.....	10
50-54.....	9
55-59.....	7
60-64.....	7
65 and older	20
Refused/not sure.....	1
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>	
Mean.....	46.9

D5. What is the last year of school you completed?

High School or less	30
Some college.....	27
College Graduate	42
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Grade school or some high school.....	5
Graduated high school.....	25
Some community college or university but did not finish	16
Graduated from a community college, technical or vocational school or two-year college degree.....	11
Completed a four-year college or university degree.....	22
Completed post-graduate degree, such as a Master's or Ph.D or professional school such as law or medicine.	20
Refused/not sure.....	1

WM10. Are you a member of a labor union? **(IF NO, ASK:)** Is anyone in the household a member of a labor union?

Total Union Household	13
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>	
Respondent a union member.....	9
Other in household a union member.....	4
No labor union member in household.....	85
Refused/not sure	2

D9. Are you of Hispanic ethnicity? **(IF NOT HISPANIC, ASK:)** Is your ethnicity white, black, Asian, or some other race?

(RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

White.....	79
Black	10
Hispanic.....	9
Asian	1
American Indian.....	-
Other	1
(VOL) Mixed	-
Refused	1

REGION:

NORTHEAST	New England.....	5
	Mid Atlantic States.....	16
MIDWEST	Great Lakes	14
	Farm Belt.....	8
SOUTH	Deep South	16
	Outer South.....	20
WEST	Mountain	10
	Pacific.....	12

METROPOLITAN STATUS:

Urban.....	32
Suburban.....	47
Rural	20

GENDER:

Male.....	47
Female.....	53