

# Los Angeles Times / Bloomberg

## National Survey: Presidential Election 2008 and the Economy

Field dates: February 21-25, 2008

Press Release #2, February 27: The Economy & Health Care

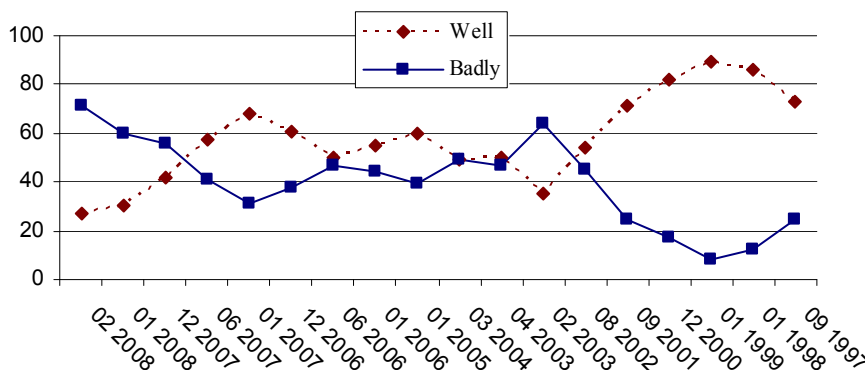
### PUBLIC BELIEVES U.S. ECONOMY IS IN RECESSION

*Few Plan To Spend Their Rebate Check, Public Split Over Further Stimulus Spending*

While the U.S. economy may not technically be in a recession – defined by most economists as two consecutive quarters of economic decline – most of the public feels that it is, according to the latest Los Angeles Times / Bloomberg poll. More than seven in 10 said the economy is in bad shape, and six out of 10 said the U.S. is in a recession. Concern is high - registered voters picked the economy as the top priority for presidential candidates to address this election season, outpacing the war in Iraq as the most pressing issue by nine percentage points. Not many Americans foresee a quick solution to the country's economic woes, fewer than one in five overall think things will improve anytime soon.

The proportion who are pessimistic about the economy is the highest it has been in a Times or Times/Bloomberg poll in a decade, with 71% saying the economy is doing badly, compared to only 27% who say it is doing well. Nearly four in 10 say the economy is doing *very* badly. That is up from a Times/Bloomberg poll last month in which 67% said the economy was doing poorly.

**Status of the National Economy**  
Source: LA Times and Times/Bloomberg Polls 1997 -2008

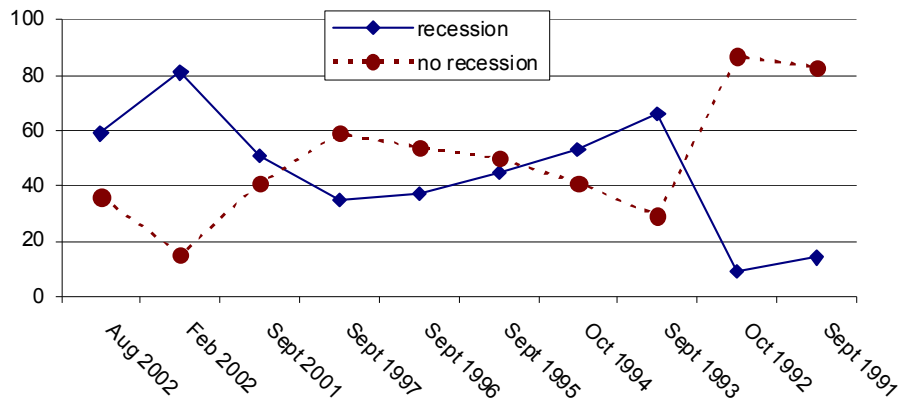


In this survey, 27% said things will get worse in the next six months, compared to 19% who felt that way last month.

In January, 79% predicted that the U.S. economy would be in recession in the coming year. In this most recent survey, when asked if the country was in a recession right now, more than six in 10 said it is and more than four of those six said it is a moderate or serious one.

### Trend - *Economy In Recession, or Not?*

Source: LA Times and Times/Bloomberg Polls 1991 -2002



The last time the Times Poll asked the recession question this way was in 2002, a year after 9/11, when 61% said the country was in recession.

Economic pessimism reached an all time low in Times Polls in October 1992 when 87% said the economy was in recession, compared to fewer than one in 10 who said it was not.

The public is not alone in its concerns – the Bush administration and congressional lawmakers acted quickly in drafting and passing an economic stimulus package of roughly \$168 billion dollars that targets low and moderate income taxpayers with rebate checks of up to \$600 per individual and \$1200 per couple, plus \$300 per child. President Bush signed the Economic Stimulus Act into law last week, and the IRS says that checks should start arriving in the mailboxes of more than 130 million American households in May. Lawmakers are hoping that recipients will spend the money on consumer goods, administering a quick pick-me-up to the sagging economy.

Will the rebate program, which the government must borrow to afford, be enough to set off the sort of chain spending reaction the government is betting on to make the economy begin growing again? In 2001 the Bush administration sent a smaller package of rebate checks to close to two-thirds of American households and according to a Princeton University [analysis](#) of data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Expenditure Survey, the government's rebate effort gave the economy a boost in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year as people spent between 20% and 40% of their rebate windfall on such things as dinners out, personal items, and clothing. The Princeton study concluded that those in lower income households had been slightly more likely to spend the windfall money than those in higher income households, a finding that guided lawmakers to aim the most recent stimulus plan at lower income households in the hopes that the money would hit the economy fast.

### Stimulus Rebate – Spend it, Save it, or Pay Down Debt?

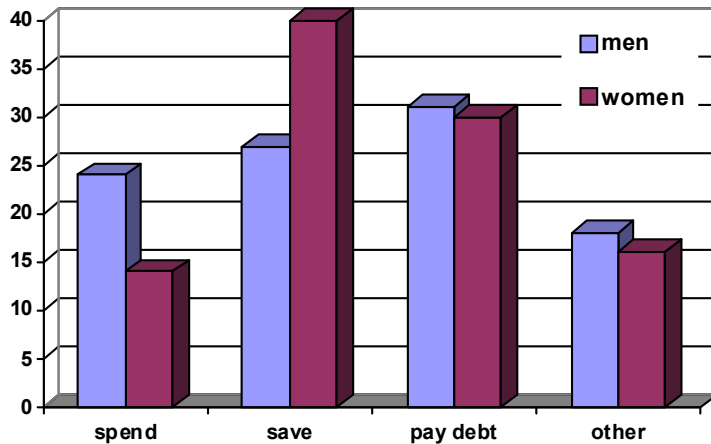
This survey shows that, right now, the level of interest in using the rebate money for purchases is 18%, less than half of the 40% the government is hoping for. Most of the public said they will save it or use it to pay debt - roughly one third said they will put it into savings, just over three out of 10 said they would pay down what they owe. Five percent said they plan to spend some and save the rest.

Those in the very lowest income households – totaling \$20,000 a year or less – are more inclined to spend the money than those in more affluent homes, but even in this group, a 36% plurality would use the money to pay down debt. A plurality of more affluent households would save it. Just under a quarter would spend their windfall, compared to 17% among the higher income groups.

Men are more likely to spend the check than women – 24% of men compared to 14% of women said they would use it for purchases. Four out of 10 women said they would squirrel the money away, compared to

27% of men. About the same proportion – three in 10 - of men and women said they'd use it to pay down debt.

**What Will You Do With Your Rebate Check?  
Men v. Women**



Nearly a quarter of white respondents said they would spend the check and about six in 10 said they would either save it (31%) or pay debt (30%). Black respondents were much less likely to spend the money - only 4% would do so, compared to 37% will pay debt and 38% who will save it.

Oddly enough, there is also a big partisan divide. Nearly three out of

10 Republicans said they'd spend their check, compared to only one out of 10 Democrats and two out of 10 independents. A 38% plurality of independents said they plan to use their rebate to pay down debt, while pluralities of Democrats and Republicans would save the money.

Public economic pessimism may be having an affect on how taxpayers view the rebates... Nearly three out of 10 who think the economy is doing well plan to spend the windfall check, compared to 15% among those who think it is doing badly. The more pessimistic group is more likely to pay down debt than the optimists, by a 10 point margin. Similarly, one out of four of those who say the country is not in a recession will spend the money, compared to 17% of those who say the economy is in a decline.

*As you may know, the president and Congress passed an economic stimulus package that includes rebates for most American households, based on their 2007 income tax. When you get your rebate check, will you spend it on purchases, or will you pay down some of your debt, or will you put it in your savings account?*

Among those who say....

	U.S. Economy Doing:		Economy in Recession:	
	<u>Well</u>	<u>Badly</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Spend on purchases	28	15	25	17
Pay debt	24	34	26	31
Save it	34	33	34	35
Save/spend some (vol)	4	6	3	5

Source: Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg Poll

## **Further Stimulus Spending**

The survey found the public split over a second stimulus package, advanced by Democrats in Congress and opposed by President Bush, which would include longer-term spending on such things as infrastructure projects, as well as extending unemployment benefits and restructuring the way mortgages are handled in bankruptcy cases. Forty-four percent favored further stimulus spending, while 42% said they concur with President Bush's thinking that the package which includes the rebate is enough. A 52% majority of Democrats supported further spending, while 50% of Republicans and a slim 46% - 40% plurality of independents were opposed. More than half of those who have lost jobs or are concerned about losing their job approved of further spending, compared to 38% among those who are not concerned about their jobs.

However, even if the public isn't lining up behind the Democrats on further stimulus spending, they tend to look to the Democratic party as best able to handle the country's economic woes. By a margin of 44% to 33% the public picked Democrats over Republicans as the party to pull the economy out of recession. Six percent said the parties would do an equally good job, 7% said neither party is best to handle it, and 10% weren't sure.

Not surprisingly, more than eight in 10 Democrats think their party would handle things best and 77% of Republicans would pick their own party. Independents look to the Democrats by 37% to 28%, but are also the most inclined of all to say that neither party (11%) or both equally would do (11%).

## **Leadership on the Mortgage Crisis**

Nearly six out of 10 nationwide think the Bush administration has mishandled what is arguably one of the driving forces behind the country's economic troubles – the subprime mortgage crisis. Fewer than three in 10 said Bush has done enough to ease the effects of the problem, and 57% said that his efforts have been insufficient. The Bush administration as recently as last December was predicting that the economy would begin to expand again, making stimulus spending counterproductive.

While a majority of Republicans – 54% - say he's taken sufficient steps, one third said he has not done enough, agreeing with the overwhelming majority of Democrats (76%) and 57% of independents. Bush continues to garner very low approval ratings overall – 62% of Americans disapprove of the job he's been doing, and 46% disapprove strongly. Among those who think he's mishandled the housing situation, nearly eight out of 10 disapprove.

Contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have alternative proposals for helping subprime homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes. Clinton would impose a 90-day halt on subprime mortgage foreclosures and freeze adjustable rates on those loans for at least five years. Obama would provide tax credits for distressed homeowners and a fund to help them refinance, imposing penalties on lenders who give mortgages to those who cannot afford them.

In the broad outline presented to them by the survey in which they were also told that Obama says Clinton's measures would drive up interest rates, respondents picked tax credits and funding over a rate freeze by 50% to 20%. Fourteen percent weren't sure or hadn't heard enough about the plans to say, 13% said that they didn't like either plan, and 3% said they sound equally as good.

Clinton's ideas sounded best to those living in lower income households, support rose to nearly three in 10 among households totaling \$40,000 to \$59,000 a year. Conversely, Obama's plan was backed by nearly six in 10 of those with household incomes of \$60,000 a year or more.

### **Candidate Health Care Reform Proposals**

The outlines of health care proposals similar to ideas that have been advanced by Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton were presented to respondents:

*Would you want your candidate to propose a health plan that would provide insurance to cover nearly all of the uninsured, but would require a significant increase in government spending, or a health plan that covers only some of the uninsured but requires less new government spending than a plan that covers nearly all, or would you prefer to keep health care basically as it is now?*

As stated, a lukewarm plurality of 38% would prefer the plan similar to Clinton's that would cover most of the uninsured even if it would incur a significant increase in spending, outnumbering the 22% who would prefer to cover some of the uninsured at a lower level of new government spending. When presented with those alternatives, 28% said they would prefer to leave things as they are now, and 12% weren't sure.

Support for the more broad-based plan stands at more than four in 10 in households with \$40,000 annual income or less, dropping to just over three in 10 among those in more affluent households.

The public split slightly toward an answer of "yes" when asked if they'd be willing to pay more in taxes in order to provide health insurance for every American - 44% to 41% with 10% hedging that it depends on how much. Most Republicans, not surprisingly, said that tax increases are a bad idea - 65% were unwilling to do so in order to cover the uninsured. However, 61% of Democrats were, joined by a 47% to 38% plurality of independents. More than half of those who are concerned about the job market and 53% of black respondents said they'd be willing to pay more in taxes to get more coverage. Blacks are also among the biggest supporters of a Clinton-style health plan that would cover nearly all, even at the cost of more new government spending, at 46%, compared to 14% who would support the plan that ignores some of the uninsured and costs less.

Previous Times/Bloomberg polls and others have found support for the general idea of spending more on health care to cover the currently uninsured. A Kaiser Health Tracking poll from last November found that nearly half of respondents would support higher levels of new government spending if it meant covering more of the uninsured. A Times/Bloomberg poll from last October found more than half agreed with a Clinton-style proposal to require all Americans to purchase health insurance, with government subsidies for those who can't afford it. With various questions getting various results, surveys mainly show that whether support for the idea of health care reform translates into actual support for specific health reform proposals may once again depend on how the subject is framed, attacked and advertised.

----- Analysis by Jill Darling

## Survey Methodology

The Los Angeles Times / Bloomberg Poll contacted 1,408 adults nationwide by telephone February 21 through 25, 2008. Telephone numbers were chosen randomly in separate samples of landline and cell phone exchanges in the nation, allowing listed and unlisted landline numbers and households that have cell phone service only to be contacted. Multiple attempts were made to contact each number.

Numbers in the cell phone exchange sample were hand-dialed and screened for households with cell phones only, resulting in 118 interviews with respondents living in households with no landline. The cell and landline samples were combined using a composite weight that adjusted for number of phones in the household, sample ratio and non-response. Adults in the combined sample were then adjusted to the most recent estimates from the National Health Interview Survey for household phone types and to census proportions of sex, ethnicity, age, education, and national region.

The margin of sampling error for all adults and all registered voters is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For Democratic-primary voters, it is 5 points, for Republican-primary voters 6 points. For some subgroups, the error margin may be higher.

Survey results may also be affected by error introduced by combining cell and landline samples and by factors such as question wording and the order in which they are asked. Interviews were conducted by Interviewing Service of America, Inc. in Van Nuys.

# Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg

## Data Tables – Survey 553 – Release #2

### Guide to Column Headings:

ALL	All respondents
REG	Registered voters
DEM , IND , REP	Self described Democrats, Independents, Republicans (Party Affiliation)
LIB , MOD , CONS	Self described liberal, moderate and conservative voters
WHITE, BLACK	Non-Hispanic white voters and all others
L/40K, \$40-59, etc.	Household income groups
LJOB/C , N/CON	Lost job or is concerned about losing job/ Not concerned about losing job

### Survey Notes:

- (vol) indicates a volunteered response
- '—' indicates that a response added up to less than 0.5% of the question base
- The order of candidate names and the order of any arguments or statements are rotated in all questions that mention them. Question order is also rotated, whenever required to eliminate order bias.
- Missing questions were included in a previous release
- Tables are among all poll respondents

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

	----- All Respondents -----										
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Right direction	26	28	21	22	35	29	22	15	26	26	28
Wrong track	63	61	73	66	56	61	66	79	63	62	62
Don't know	11	10	6	12	9	10	12	6	11	12	10
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Right direction	26	12	27	43							
Wrong track	63	81	58	48							
Don't know	11	7	15	9							

Q52. 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?

	----- All Respondents -----								
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>
Approve (net)	<u>34</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>35</u>
Approve strongly	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>21</u>
Disapprove (net)	<u>62</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>61</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>46</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>47</u>
D/know (net)	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>			
Approve (net)	<u>38</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>69</u>			
Approve strongly	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>37</u>			
Approve somewhat	<u>21</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>32</u>			
Disapprv (net)	<u>58</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>28</u>			
Disapprove somewhat	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>			
Disapprove strongly	<u>42</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>13</u>			
D/know (net)	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>			

Q53. Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing very well, or fairly well, or fairly badly, or very badly?

	----- All Respondents -----								
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>
Well (net)	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>29</u>
Very well	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
Fairly well	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>
Badly (net)	<u>71</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>68</u>
Fairly badly	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>32</u>
Very badly	<u>38</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>36</u>
D/know (net)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>			
Well (net)	<u>30</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>49</u>			
Very well	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>			
Fairly well	<u>28</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>44</u>			
Badly (net)	<u>68</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>49</u>			
Fairly badly	<u>32</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>31</u>			
Very badly	<u>36</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>19</u>			
D/know (net)	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>			

Q54. Do you think we are in an economic recession, or not? (IF YES) Do you think we are in a mild recession, or a moderate recession, or a serious recession?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
No recession	<u>32</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>12</u>
Recession (net)	<u>61</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>73</u>
Mild recession	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>10</u>
Moderate recession	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>31</u>
Serious recession	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>32</u>
D/Know (net)	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
No recession	<u>30</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>56</u>							
Recession (net)	<u>62</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>41</u>							
Mild recession	<u>20</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>							
Moderate recession	<u>26</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>15</u>							
Serious recession	<u>17</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>							
D/Know (net)	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>							

Q55. Six months from now, do you expect the nation's economy will be better than it is now, worse than it is now or about the same as it is now?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Better	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
Worse	<u>27</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>
About the same	<u>50</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>50</u>
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Better	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>28</u>							
Worse	<u>26</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>16</u>							
About the same	<u>50</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>51</u>							
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>							

Q56. If the nation falls into a recession, which political party do you think would be best at restarting the country's economic growth: the Democratic party or the Republican Party?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Democratic party	<u>44</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>75</u>
Republican party	<u>33</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>13</u>
Both equally (vol)	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Neither (vol)	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Democratic party	<u>44</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>11</u>							
Republican party	<u>35</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>77</u>							
Both equally (vol)	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>							
Neither (vol)	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>							
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>							

Q57. As you may know, the president and Congress passed an economic stimulus package that includes rebates for most American households, based on their 2007 income tax. When you get your rebate check, will you spend it on purchases, or will you pay down some of your debt, or will you put it in your savings account?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Spend on purchases	18	18	19	16	20	24	14	18	17	23	4
Pay debt	31	37	34	27	26	31	30	36	30	30	37
Save it	34	30	34	41	33	27	40	30	38	31	38
No rebate (vol)	5	5	1	2	12	5	5	2	4	5	4
Save/spend some (vol)	5	6	4	8	3	5	5	6	4	4	10
Something else (vol)	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Don't know	6	3	8	5	5	7	5	7	6	6	5

	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>
Spend on purchases	19	10	20	27
Pay debt	31	33	38	21
Save it	33	38	30	36
No rebate (vol)	5	4	3	5
Save/spend some (vol)	6	7	3	5
Something else (vol)	1	1	2	1
Don't know	5	7	4	5

Q58. As you may know, some Congressional Democrats say a second economic stimulus package is necessary, which would include the extension of unemployment benefits and increased spending on bridges, roads and other infrastructure projects. President Bush says passing another stimulus package to include these measures is too costly and unnecessary. What do you think? Do you support or oppose this second economic stimulus package? (IF SUPPORT/OPOSE) Would you (support/oppose) such a program strongly or only somewhat?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Support (net)	44	51	38	38	40	44	43	53	38	43	49
Support strongly	24	31	20	15	21	27	22	34	21	25	22
Support somewhat	20	20	18	23	19	18	21	20	17	18	27
Oppose (net)	42	32	55	50	47	46	39	34	47	42	39
Oppose somewhat	18	17	23	20	24	18	18	9	22	19	9
Oppose strongly	24	15	32	30	23	27	21	24	25	23	30
D/Know (net)	14	17	7	12	13	10	18	13	15	15	12

	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>
Support (net)	42	52	40	37
Support strongly	24	32	21	17
Support somewhat	18	21	19	20
Oppose (net)	43	34	46	50
Oppose somewhat	19	20	20	16
Oppose strongly	25	13	26	34
D/Know (net)	15	14	14	13

Q59. Do you think the Bush administration has taken sufficient steps to aid the housing industry and ease the affects of the mortgage crisis, or has the Bush administration not done enough?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Sufficient steps	28	20	27	40	43	32	24	27	29	33	12
Not done enough	57	67	56	47	48	51	62	63	51	52	84
Don't know	15	13	17	13	9	17	14	10	20	15	4
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Sufficient steps	31	11	25	54							
Not done enough	54	76	57	33							
Don't know	15	13	18	13							

Q60. As you may know, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama each have a proposal to help homeowners with subprime mortgages who are in danger of losing their homes because of higher interest rates. Clinton would impose a 90 -day halt on foreclosures for homeowners with subprime mortgages and a freeze on adjustable subprime rates for at least five years. Obama says those measures would drive up interest rates. He proposes tax credits for homeowners and a fund to help people refinance, as well as penalties for lenders who gave mortgages to people who could not afford them. Which proposal do you prefer: A moratorium on foreclosures and a OR rate freeze, or tax credits and funding to help people refinance?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Moratorium on foreclosures	20	20	28	17	18	19	21	20	19	20	8
Tax credits and fund for refinancing	50	50	45	58	58	50	51	57	51	49	67
Both equally (vol)	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	2
Neither (vol)	13	9	12	20	14	17	9	13	16	15	5
Haven't heard enough (vol)	6	11	5	1	2	4	8	3	6	5	7
Don't know	8	8	8	2	6	8	8	6	6	8	11
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Moratorium on foreclosures	20	20	23	18							
Tax credits and fund for refinancing	51	55	48	51							
Both equally (vol)	2	4	2	1							
Neither (vol)	13	4	14	21							
Haven't heard enough (vol)	6	9	5	4							
Don't know	8	8	8	5							

Q61. Which ONE of the following three things would you like to see in a health care reform proposal from a presidential candidate? Would you want your candidate to propose a health plan that would provide insurance to cover nearly all of the uninsured, BUT would require a significant increase in government spending, or a health plan that covers only SOME of the uninsured BUT requires less new government spending than a plan that covers nearly all, or would you prefer to keep health care basically as it is now?

	----- All Respondents -----										
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Cover nearly all but spend more	38	43	45	31	31	38	37	44	35	37	46
Cover some but spend less	22	24	21	21	31	19	25	21	22	23	14
Keep as it is now	28	21	24	39	31	33	23	23	31	29	21
Don't know	12	12	10	9	7	10	15	12	12	11	19
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Cover nearly all but spend more	38	54	44	15							
Cover some but spend less	23	21	22	27							
Keep as it is now	27	12	26	45							
Don't know	12	13	8	13							

Q62. If you knew that in order to provide health insurance for every American it would require an increase in taxes, would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes?

	----- All Respondents -----										
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Yes	44	47	49	42	47	44	44	53	43	43	53
No	41	38	37	47	49	42	40	34	45	42	32
Depends (vol)	10	9	12	8	3	10	10	10	9	10	11
Don't know	5	6	2	3	1	4	6	3	3	5	4
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Yes	44	61	47	26							
No	42	23	38	65							
Depends (vol)	9	11	9	6							
Don't know	5	5	6	3							

Q63. All in all, do you think the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, or not?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Worth going to war	33	30	30	43	39	33	34	18	34	38	9
Not worth going to war	59	65	66	51	57	59	60	78	58	54	82
Don't know	8	5	4	6	4	8	6	4	8	8	9
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Worth going to war	34	11	30	66							
Not worth going to war	60	86	63	25							
Don't know	6	3	7	9							

Q66. Have you lost your job or been laid off within the last six months, or not? (IF NOT) Are you concerned about losing your job or being laid off within the next six months because of economic conditions, or not?

----- All Respondents -----											
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>L/40K</u>	<u>\$40-\$59</u>	<u>\$60-100</u>	<u>M/\$100</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>LJOB/C</u>	<u>N/CON</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
Lost job/concerned (net)	11	15	14	9	10	13	10	100	-	11	13
Lost job	6	9	7	3	4	7	6	55	-	6	10
Concerned	5	6	7	6	6	6	4	45	-	5	3
Not concerned	52	39	52	71	62	58	46	-	100	51	52
Do not work (vol)	28	38	22	18	23	22	33	-	-	28	29
D/Know (net)	9	8	12	2	5	7	10	-	-	9	6
	<u>REG</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>							
Lost job/concerned (net)	11	14	11	7							
Lost job	6	10	6	2							
Concerned	5	4	5	5							
Not concerned	53	51	52	58							
Do not work	28	25	27	29							
D/Know (net)	7	10	10	6							