

US Action Frequency Questionnaire

January 22-28, 2008
600 Likely Swing Voters

Q.3 First of all, are you registered to vote at this address?

	Total
Yes	100
No.....	-
(Refused).....	-
(ref:SCREEN1)	

Q.4 Many people weren't able to vote in the 2004 election for President between George Bush and John Kerry. How about you? Were you able to vote, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

	Total
Voted	99
Not registered in 2004/Ineligible/too young	1
Did not vote	-
(Can't remember/Don't know).....	-
(Refused).....	-
(ref:VOTE00)	

Q.5 I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances of you voting in the election for president in November: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

	Total
Almost certain.....	94
Probably	6
50-50	-
Will not vote.....	-
(Don't know)	-
(Refused).....	-
(ref:CP3)	

Q.6 Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Total
Right direction	19
Wrong track.....	74
(Don't know/refused)	7
Right - Wrong.....	-56
(ref:DIRECT)	

Q.7 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican or what?

	Total
Strong Democrat	2
Weak Democrat.....	8
Independent-lean Democrat.....	25
Independent	24
Independent-lean Republican	24
Weak Republican	9
Strong Republican.....	5
(Don't know/refused)	3
(ref:PTYID1)	

Q.10 I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the election for President in November, if the election were held today, for whom would you vote – the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

	Total
Democratic candidate.....	34
Lean Democratic candidate.....	7
Republican candidate.....	26
Lean Republican candidate.....	8
(Other candidate)	1
Lean (Other candidate)	1
(Undecided).....	19
(Refused).....	4
Total Democratic candidate	41
Total Republican candidate.....	34
Total (Other candidate).....	2
Democratic candidate - Republican candidate.....	7
(ref:PRES08)	

Q.12 Thinking about the election for Congress in 2008, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for (Democratic incumbent/candidate) or (Republican incumbent/candidate)?¹

	Total
Democratic incumbent/candidate	37
Lean Democratic incumbent/candidate	3
Republican incumbent/candidate	34
Lean Republican incumbent/candidate	3
(Other candidate)	3
Lean (Other candidate)	1
(Undecided)	16
(Refused).....	3
Total Democratic incumbent/candidate	40
Total Republican incumbent/candidate	38
Total (Other candidate)	3
Democratic candidate - Republican candidate.....	2
(ref:CONG06)	

Q.16 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George Bush is handling his job as president?

	Total
Strongly approve	10
Somewhat approve	17
Somewhat disapprove.....	16
Strongly disapprove.....	51
(Don't know/refused)	6
Total approve.....	28
Total disapprove.....	67
Approve - disapprove	-39
(ref:CANDAPP2)	

¹ For each district, the incumbent's name was inserted, and a generic candidate ("the Democratic candidate" or "the Republican candidate") was inserted for the opposition.

Q.17 Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.

	1st Stmt Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	Both	Neither	DK/Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
[300 Respondents]										
17 (SPLIT A) The best way to stimulate the economy is with investments in education and clean, renewable energy. OR The best way to stimulate the economy is with tax cuts and allowing people to keep more of what they earn.	30	9	12	39	3	4	4	39	51	-12

[300 Respondents]										
18 (SPLIT B) It is still possible for most people to achieve the American Dream in this country. OR It is not possible for most people to achieve the American Dream in this country.	52	12	9	25	-	1	2	64	34	30

[300 Respondents]										
19 (SPLIT A) Government should do more to solve problems and help meet the needs of people. OR Government is doing too many things that are better left to businesses and individuals.	34	12	11	37	1	2	3	46	48	-2

	1st Stmt Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	Both	Neither	DK/Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
[300 Respondents]										
20 (SPLIT B) The government should do more to help needy Americans, even if it means higher taxes. OR The government is doing enough and should let people keep more of what they earn.	21	8	9	56	-	4	3	28	66	-37
21 America needs more sense of community and people helping one another. OR America needs more self-reliance and personal responsibility.	36	10	8	39	4	1	2	46	47	-2
22 This country is currently in an economic recession. OR This country is not currently in an economic recession..... (ref:VALUES04)	44	17	13	19	-	2	4	61	33	28

[300 Respondents]

Q.23 (SPLIT A) When you hear candidates for public office promising "change" and using the word "change" in their campaigns, what specifically do you think they are talking about?

Awaiting open-end respondents.

(ref:CHANGOE1)

[300 Respondents]

Q.24 (SPLIT B) A lot of candidates for public office are promising "change" and using the word change in their campaigns. What do you think most needs to be changed in this country?

Awaiting open-end respondents.

(ref:CHANGOE2)

Q.25 Here are some changes some people have suggested for this country. Please tell me which one you believe is most important.

	Total
Ending the war in Iraq	17
Ending our dependence on foreign oil.....	15
Creating an economy that works for everybody	13
Investing more in health care to guarantee everyone can afford coverage.....	13
Controlling illegal immigration	12
Reducing taxes and the size of government	9
Investing more in education so we can compete in the global economy	9
Keeping depictions of sex and violence away from children.....	2
(All)	8
(None)	1
(Don't know/refused)	2
(ref:CHANGE2A)	

Q.26 What is the next most important change for this country.

	Total
Ending our dependence on foreign oil.....	15
Investing more in education so we can compete in the global economy	14
Investing more in health care to guarantee everyone can afford coverage.....	13
Controlling illegal immigration	11
Ending the war in Iraq	10
Reducing taxes and the size of government	10
Creating an economy that works for everybody	9
Keeping depictions of sex and violence away from children.....	5
(All)	0
(None)	1
(Don't know/refused)	12

Q.25/26 combined

	Total
Ending our dependence on foreign oil.....	29
Ending the war in Iraq	27
Investing more in health care to guarantee everyone can afford coverage.....	26
Controlling illegal immigration	23
Investing more in education so we can compete in the global economy	23
Creating an economy that works for everybody	22
Reducing taxes and the size of government	18
Keeping depictions of sex and violence away from children.....	7
(All)	9
(None)	2
(Don't know/refused)	12
(ref:CHANGE2A/B)	

Q.27 Let me read you some things some candidates for President and Congress have been saying in their campaigns. For each statement, please tell me whether this statement makes you much more likely, somewhat more likely, a little more likely, no more likely, or less likely to support this candidate.

	Much More Likely	Smwt More Likely	Lttle More Likely	No More Likely	Less Likely	DK/ Ref	Much Smwt/ Lttle	Much Lttle
27 We need a real plan to invest in America. We need the government to invest in children and strengthen public schools, provide access to high quality, affordable health care for all and invest in clean energy to help end our dependence on oil. We can pay for it by ending our involvement in Iraq and ending Bush's tax cuts for the rich and big corporations.	36	22	7	11	22	2	58	65
28 We need to change our priorities. Instead of giving big corporations tax incentives to move jobs overseas, signing free trade agreements with countries that employ children, and giving tax breaks to millionaires, we need to make sure middle class families enjoy a decent standard of living, including affordable health care, housing and higher education.	42	24	11	8	12	2	66	77

	Much More Likly	Smwt More Likly	Lttle More Likly	No More Likly	Less Likly	DK/ Ref	Much/Smwt/ Smwt	Much Lttle
29 Instead of spending all of our resources overseas, we need to worry more about people in America for a change. We need to safely end the war in Iraq quickly and get our troops home. We need to improve security at our borders and stop providing benefits to illegal immigrants, and we need to stop trade agreements that send our jobs overseas.....	40	24	14	9	10	2	64	78
30 The most important job is keeping America strong and safe. We have not had a single successful attack against this country since 9/11, but we need to continue to be vigilant about improving border security, maintaining the best military in the world, stopping Iran from building a nuclear weapon and beating the terrorists in Iraq.....	30	25	14	12	17	2	55	69
31 The problem with America is that taxes are too high and the government wastes too much money, NOT that government is too small or that we do not pay enough taxes. We need to continue tax cuts for middle class families and cut taxes further to jump start the economy.	33	28	12	11	13	3	62	74
32 America needs to be strong militarily and economically, but also morally as well. Our children are exposed to too much sex and violence on television, marriage is declining in this country, and prominent politicians, including candidates for president, are supporting gay marriage. (ref:CANDMESS)	22	14	11	17	32	4	36	46

[300 Respondents]

Q.33 (SPLIT E) Now let me read you brief descriptions of two candidates running for Congress. After I read these descriptions, please tell me which one you would support.

Candidate A has embraced a positive agenda that takes the country in a different direction and invests in this country. He will fight for a plan for new investments to strengthen education, guarantee access to high quality affordable health care for all and make investments in technology to make America energy independent. In order to pay for this, he will fight to roll back recently passed tax hand-outs for corporations and those earning over \$200,000 a year and dramatically reduce spending in Iraq.

Candidate B will fight to maintain tax cuts for middle class Americans and businesses to keep the economy moving and stop the reckless tax and spend policies of the past. He will work to improve schools with more accountability and help small businesses and families pay health care costs, but leave the main responsibility for health care to individuals. He opposes increasing government spending because that would increase the deficit.

Which candidate do you support?

	Total
Candidate A, strongly	29
Candidate A, not so strongly	17
Candidate B, not so strongly	18
Candidate B, strongly	28
(Don't know/refused)	7
Total Candidate A	46
Total Candidate B	47
Candidate A - Candidate B	0
(ref:CAND08E)	

[300 Respondents]

Q.34 (SPLIT F) Now let me read you brief descriptions of two candidates running for Congress. After I read these descriptions, please tell me which one you would support.

Candidate A strongly opposes the policies of George Bush and wants to take the country in a new direction. Unlike Bush, he will fight to guarantee access to high quality affordable health care for all. He will invest to strengthen education and, unlike Bush, will put our energy needs ahead of big oil companies and make the investments in technology to make America energy independent. In order to pay for this, he will fight to roll back Bush's tax hand-outs for corporations and those earning over \$200,000 a year and dramatically reduce spending in Iraq.

Candidate B will fight to maintain tax cuts for middle class Americans and businesses to keep the economy moving and stop the reckless tax and spend policies of the past. He will work to improve schools with more accountability and help small businesses and families pay health care costs, but leave the main responsibility for health care to individuals. He opposes increasing government spending because that would increase the deficit.

Which candidate do you support?

	Total
Candidate A, strongly	35
Candidate A, not so strongly	12
Candidate B, not so strongly	13
Candidate B, strongly	31
(Don't know/refused)	8
Total Candidate A	47
Total Candidate B	45
Candidate A - Candidate B	2

Q.33/34 combined

	Total
Candidate A, strongly	32
Candidate A, not so strongly	14
Candidate B, not so strongly	16
Candidate B, strongly	30
(Don't know/refused)	8
Total Candidate A	47
Total Candidate B	46
Candidate A - Candidate B	1
(ref:CAND08F)	

Q.35 Let me tell you more details about a plan to invest in this country.

Under this plan, the government will invest to guarantee high quality affordable health care for all, invest in child development and preschool programs that help kids start school ready to learn, strengthen public schools and expand college aid. This plan will also develop clean energy to help end our dependence on oil. In order to pay for the plan, it would eliminate recently passed tax breaks for millionaires and big corporations, safely end our costly war with Iraq and include new measures to hold government accountable and reduce corruption and waste.

Having heard this, do you favor or oppose this plan?

	Total
Strongly favor	38
Somewhat favor	31
Somewhat oppose.....	11
Strongly oppose	14
(Don't know/refused)	6
Total favor	69
Total oppose	25
Favor - Oppose	45
(ref:AGENDA08)	

Q.36 Thinking about the name of this plan which one or two of the following different names do you think best describes than plan?

	Total
Invest in America's Future	28
Change America's Priorities	18
Change For America's Future	15
Invest in America's Priorities	13
Change America Now	11
Change for America	10
Investing in Us.....	10
(None)	7
(Don't know/refused)	11
(ref:NAME3)	

[300 Respondents]

Q.37 (SPLIT E) Please tell me in your own words, what you like best about this plan?

Awaiting open-end respondents.

(ref:AGENDOE1)

[300 Respondents]

Q.38 (SPLIT F) Please tell me in your own words, what concerns or reservations do you have about this plan?

Awaiting open-end respondents.

(ref:AGENDOE2)

Q.39 Now let me read you some/other statements about (NAME3). After I read these statements, please tell me how convincing you find each statement as a reason to SUPPORT (NAME FROM NAME3). A ten would mean you find the statement very convincing. A zero would mean you find the statement not at all convincing. You can use any number from zero to ten.

	Mean	% 10	% 8-10	% 6-10	% 0-5	DK/ Ref
39 We have already spent over 500 billion dollars in Iraq; rather than spending this money on an overseas war we cannot win, we should invest in our own people and in our own children.	6.4	33	51	63	35	1

[300 Respondents]

40 (SPLIT A) Many economists are now saying what most middle class people already feel, that the economy is slowing down, people are being squeezed by the high costs of health care, food and energy; this plan will help get the economy moving again.

41 Real change requires a real plan. Everyday you hear some candidates, both Democrats and Republicans, talking about change; this plan is more than just a campaign promise, but is a real plan to change our direction and makes the necessary investments for progress in America.

42 Our national priorities are upside down. We have been handing out tax giveaways to millionaires and corporations while paying for it by cutting health care for kids and seniors, slashing Head Start programs and school funding. This plan will help turn those priorities around.

43 Unlike some other government spending, these investments will pay off. Health care reform and investments in clean energy will allow businesses to cut their costs and compete in a global economy. Studies show that investments in early learning for children provides the highest return of any social spending, increasing the future earnings and success of these children.....

	Mean	% 10	% 8-10	% 6-10	% 0-5	DK/ Ref
[300 Respondents]						
44 (SPLIT B) Many economists are now saying what most middle class people already feel, that the economy is slowing down, people are being squeezed by the high costs of health care, food and energy; this plan will be a down payment to help the economy moving again right away and provide long term investments for sustained economic growth.	6.4	17	42	64	34	1
(ref:POSARG)						

Q.45 Now let me read you some/other statements about the (NAME FROM NAME1). After I read these statements, please tell me how convincing you find each statement as a reason to OPPOSE (NAME FROM NAME1). A ten would mean you find the statement very convincing. A zero would mean you find the statement not at all convincing. You can use any number from zero to ten.

	Mean	% 10	% 8-10	% 6-10	% 0-5	DK/ Ref
45 This program sounds nice, but the fact is government cannot be trusted to spend taxpayer dollars; the U.S. Senate recently passed a bill intended for hurricane relief in New Orleans, but instead it went to a highway project in Hawaii, and recently spent a million dollars on a water-free urinal initiative.	5.9	23	38	51	45	4
46 As Americans, we need to learn again how to do more for ourselves and not rely on big government programs to help us improve our own lives.	7.0	33	54	68	31	0

[300 Respondents]						
47 (SPLIT A) Right now we are running a deficit of nearly \$160 billion dollars a year; we simply can not afford a dramatic increase in government spending.	6.7	33	51	64	35	1

[300 Respondents]						
48 (SPLIT B) Congress has already proposed nearly one-point-five trillion dollars in new spending and taxes, and candidates running for President have argued for billions more; the last thing we need is another huge government program that costs billions of dollars.	6.4	29	44	58	41	1
49 The economy is close to being in a recession; this program will require a major tax increase right now or an increase in the federal deficit that will almost certainly plunge this country into an even worse economic mess.	5.1	14	29	42	56	2

	Mean	% 10	% 8-10	% 6-10	% 0-5	DK/ Ref
50 This country already spends billions of dollars a year on illegal immigrants who just got here and people who refuse to work. We need to work more on allowing middle class people to keep more of what they earn, than on spending money on ineffective government programs.....	6.7	29	49	64	34	2

(ref:NEGARG)

Q.51 Having heard this, do you favor or oppose this plan?

	Total
Strongly favor	23
Somewhat favor	37
Somewhat oppose.....	15
Strongly oppose	15
(Don't know/refused)	9
Total favor	60
Total oppose	31
Favor - Oppose	29

(ref:REAGENDA)

Q.52 Now I am going to read you some proposals to reduce government waste and make the government more accountable. After each one please tell me whether you believe this idea will be very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective or not at all effective in reducing waste in government?

	Very Eff	Smwt Eff	Not Very Eff	Not at All	DK/ Ref	Very/ Smwt Eff	Not Eff
[300 Respondents]							
52 (SPLIT A) Create an Iraq Inspector General to oversee U.S. spending in Iraq, audit all spending, including civilian contractors, to eliminate waste and investigate potential fraud.	33	36	14	16	2	69	29

[300 Respondents]							
53 (SPLIT B) Eliminate no-bid contracts and require all government contracts to be awarded through a competitive bidding process.	47	37	9	5	1	84	15

[300 Respondents]							
54 (SPLIT A) Eliminate earmarked budget allocations, which give money to members' pet projects and often personally benefit their close friends, family or campaign donors.....	47	26	13	13	2	72	25

	Very Conv	Smwt Conv	A Little Conv	Not at All	DK/ Ref	Very/ Smwt Conv	Little/ Not Conv
[300 Respondents]							
55 (SPLIT B) Audit every federal department and agency to make sure their funding is going to meaningful projects, instead of the bureaucracy.	49	32	11	7	0	81	19

[300 Respondents]							
56 (SPLIT A) Create a strong whistle-blower law to protect government employees from being punished if they report waste or corruption.	46	33	13	7	2	79	19

[300 Respondents]							
57 (SPLIT B) Stop corporate lobbyists from weakening federal regulations that protect consumers and the environment.....	43	35	13	7	1	78	21

[300 Respondents]							
58 (SPLIT A) Eliminate loopholes that allow corporations to get out of paying their fair share of taxes.	51	26	12	9	2	77	21

[300 Respondents]							
59 (SPLIT B) Reform campaign finance laws to reduce influence of special interests in elections..... (ref:ACCNT)	53	25	14	8	1	77	22

Q.60 Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes. In what year were you born?

	Total
18 - 24	2
25 - 29	4
30 - 34	6
35 - 39	7
40 - 44	7
45 - 49	11
50 - 54	11
55 - 59	11
60 - 64	12
Over 64.....	27
(No answer).....	2
(ref:AGE)	

Q.61 What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total
1 - 11th grade	3
High School graduate.....	25
Non-college post H.S.	1
Some college.....	25
College graduate.....	27
Post-graduate school	18
(Don't know/refused)	1
(ref:EDUC)	

Q.62 Are you a member of a labor union?

	Total
Yes: Respondent belongs	13
Household member	7
No member belongs	79
(Don't know/refused)	1
Total Union household	20
(ref:UNION)	

Q.63 Are you married, single, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	Total
Married	65
Single	14
Separated/divorced	11
Widowed.....	9
(Don't know/refused)	2
Sep/Div/Wid.....	19
(ref:MARITAL)	

Q.64 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal?

	Total
Liberal.....	12
Moderate	48
Conservative	36
(Don't know/refused)	4
(ref:IDEO1)	

Q.65 What is your religion?

	Total
Protestant.....	53
Catholic	19
Jewish	1
(Other/none/refused)	26
Muslim	0
(ref:RELIG1)	

Q.66 How often do you attend church – every week, once or twice a month, several times a year, or hardly ever?

	Total
Every week.....	38
Once or twice a month	13
Several times a year.....	14
Hardly ever	24
(Never)	6
(Don't know/Refused).....	5
(ref:RELIG2)	

Q.67 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Total
White	83
African-American or Black.....	4
Hispanic or Latino.....	5
Native American	2
Asian	1
(Other)	1
(Don't know/refused)	4
(ref:RACETHN)	

Q.2 Record respondent's gender

	Total
Male.....	53
Female	47
(ref:GENDER)	